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THE



ERA

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APPLICATIONS for Positions on the
FRONT PAGE should be addressed to
the Advertisement Manager.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

CARL ROSA OPERA SEASON.

Criticism by
KATE SEARLE.

"CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA."
One explanation of the awakening in-
terest in opera shown by "the masses" is
to be found in the great care and skill now
lavished on the vivid presentation of the
drama, apart from the singing. The per-
formance of "Cavalleria Rusticana," given
at the Garrick by the Carl Rosa Company
on the 8th inst., was a case in point. The
acting was remarkable; better, in fact,
than the singing, which was good enough,
but not distinguished. Every one of the
principals made his or her part stand out
boldly and frankly—a clear-cut, human
character. The playing was as "close" and
had as much grip as one expects, and gets,
in Lyceum melodrama. The result was
perhaps the keenest, live-est performance
of Mascagni's chef d'œuvre ever seen on
London boards. Congratulations, among
the others, to stage manager, Mr. George
Beale!

Her music seemed rather high for the
compass of Miss Ida Carlton's mezzo-
soprano voice, but she played with a
spiritual intensity that lifted her San-
tuzza above all those I have seen, even
in Italy, the supposed hotbed of passionate
acting. Mr. Charles Neville has a very
serviceable tenor of an Italian type, and
uses it uncommonly well. His Turiddu was
admirable in every way. Mr. Frank Clarke's
bluff, vindictive Alfio was another fine
sketch. So was Miss Dorothy Taylor's pro-
voking, devil-may-care Lola; and the
"dour" but kindly Mamma Lucia of Miss
Jean Douglas Wilson could not have been
bettered. An excellent "Pagliacci" per-
formance followed. Although faithful
Nedda is hardly best suited to Miss Beatrice
Miranda's personality, she played with
great intelligence, and her singing was
finely dramatic. Mr. Hughes Macklin's
Canio was splendid work. Nothing over-
done, even in "On with the Mollie," but
full of true passion and pathos, Mr. Hebban
Foster's revengeful Tonio was vividly
drawn, and finely sung, especially the
Prologue.

"THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO."
Thursday night brought a thoroughly
genial, good-humoured performance of
"The Marriage of Figaro," and some ex-
cellent Mozart vocalisation. Especially
distinguished was the singing of Miss
Dorothy Robson, whose rather subdued and
melancholy Countess found a neat foil in
Miss Clara Simons's pert and pretty
Susanna. Miss Ida Carlton was as clever
as saucy Cherubino as she had been as
Santuzza, and sang with point. Mr.
Charles Victor's Figaro was the identical
lively rascal of his early days, when
he was the Barber of Seville. But Mr.
Arthur Winckworth's Count, his contem-
porary, had evidently settled down into
ponderous, although illicitly amorous,
middle age. Mr. Tom Hamilton's Antonio
strayed by mistake out of a to-day's Chris-
tian pantomime into the century before
last. The whole company may be re-
minded that the first syllable of Figaro is
not pronounced "Fig," but "Fee."

"AIDA."
For Friday was promised a special re-
vival on a magnificent scale of Verdi's
masterpiece, "Aida," a promise that the
whole company worked hard to fulfil, with
gratifying success. The outstanding
triumph of the evening was Miss Phyllis
Archibald's finely sung and splendidly
played Amneris. Most moving was her
intensely emotional acting in the scene
outside the Temple. Here she painted
wrath, despair, and fierce jealousy with
the power of a tragic actress. Although
apparently not in her best voice in her
solos, Miss Beatrice Miranda, the Aida,
sang finely in the scene with Amneris and
in the glorious closing duet with Mr.
Hughes Macklin as Rhadames, although
in this both singers rather failed to
"feel" the rhythm. Elsewhere, especially
in the Nile scene, Mr. Macklin sang with
fine fervour. Much of kingly dignity was
in Mr. Hebban Foster's warrior Amoruso.
His singing was excellent. A word of praise
is due to the ballet, and to their trainer,
Mme. Blise Clerc, for a quaint and novel
boy's dance to an accompaniment beaten out
on half-coconut shells. At times the or-
chestra was over-loud, and the men's
choruses were rather raggedly sung; but
these were minor points in an excellent
performance.

"MARIANA."
A packed house, with eleven rows of
stalls, greeted Saturday night's "Mari-
ana" and Mr. Ben Davies in his old Carl
Rosa days' part of Don Cesar de Bazan.
Twenty odd years of absence have not
changed the jolly Don beyond knowledge.
They have put a few inches on his girth
and robbed a little silver from his high
tones, but not a whit from the finished art
of his singing or the delightful irrespon-
sible humour of his acting. Part of the
enormous applause he received was from
an audience liberally sprinkled with grey
heads renewing their youth in the old
songs, but most of it was but just return
for a most genial and sympathetic per-
formance. Of course, he gave an encore for
"Let Me Like a Soldier Fall." Encores
were the rule. For Miss Eva Turner, a
fresh, natural soprano, as Mariana; for
Mr. Frank Clarke, in fine voice, as Don
Jose; and for Miss Gladys Parr, very suc-
cessful as the boy Lazarillo. The
"Angels that Around Us" chorus was
beautifully sung; and the orchestra, under
Mr. Arthur Fagge, played the accom-
paniments with dutiful conscientiousness.

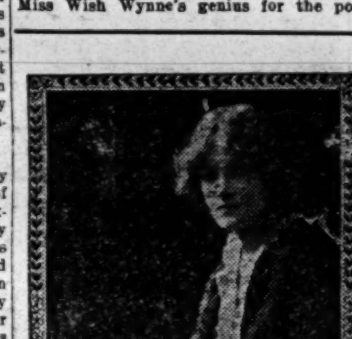
THE PIONEER PLAYERS.

Triple Bill, Presented by the Pioneer
Players at the Kingsway Theatre, on
Sunday, May 13.

Criticism by
MABEL KOOPMAN.

"LUCK OF WAR." By Gwen John.
Amos Crispin Miss Doris Lytton
Ann Hemingway Wish Wynne
Maud Hemingway Fabia Drake
A Neighbour Madeline Grande
George Hemingway A. S. Homewood
Victor Hemingway Aubrey Cameron
This is the story of Enoch Arden, told,
as is often probably the case, in this year
of 1917. Unlike Tennyson's hero, George
Hemingway, after two-and-a-half years of
silence, writes to Ann, his wife, that he
is coming home. Here is the weak
point of the play. Admitting that
George "is no writer," as his wife
informs us, why, if he had not troubled
even to send a field card—the refuge of
the dilatory and the illiterate—from the
trenches to Ann and "t' childer," and had
left her to "fend for herself" for nearly
three years, did he trouble to write at the
eleventh hour to announce his imminent
arrival? Ann's case had more justification.
She was "lonely and miserable"; her hus-
band had been reported missing; she was
in receipt of a pension; and Amos, her
second husband, was "a good living man."
After the first outburst, the three acted
themselves to circumstances with the philo-
sophy of the Midlands, and agree to "let
bygones be bygones."

There are some excellent touches in this
play: the memorial card and verse, the
sheepish resignation of Amos, the trans-
ference of the children from the first
second to their "real dadda," and the
quiet submission of Ann to the inevitable.
Miss Wish Wynne's genius for the por-



MISS GLADYS COOPER.
(Photo Claude Harris.)

trayal of restful, quiet women of common
sense was again in evidence, and excellent
work was done by Mr. Wordley Hulise as
Amos; while Mr. A. S. Homewood got the
rough, stolid, genial soldier very well. Miss
Fabia Drake was finished and alert as the
precocious child Maud.

"THE QUITTER." By Sewell Collins.
Eddie Enright E. J. Caldwell
Bill Tucker Frank Pettley
John Appleby Augustus Yorke
Cecil Ames George Elton
This is, primarily, a very cleverly drawn
(and admirably acted) picture of a type of
either in his own eyes or in the eyes of
the world. He goes back to duty, cursing
and reviling, but he goes back. Strong
stuff, written from the heart, arresting
though painful. I shall be surprised if we
do not hear of this again.

"DEATH AND THE LADY."
Arranged by Edith Craig and Mrs. Chris-
topher Lowther, music arranged by
Christopher Wilson, was an illustration in a
quaintly beautiful setting of the inevit-
ability of death, represented as the tradi-
tional black-robed, white-faced, menacing
figure. He summons a beautiful woman
in the prime of life from the betrothal feast
of her daughter. Her bribes and en-
treathes are unavailing, and finally, calling
on the mercy of God, she submits. Mrs.
Christopher Lowther made a beautiful,
appealing figure as the lady, and her queer,
graceful dance at the feast was a joy to
behold. As Death, Mr. William Stack was
impressive and dignified.

"WANTED, A HUSBAND."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Cyril Harcourt,
Produced at the Playhouse on Wednes-
day, May 9.

Maudie Bray Miss Doris Lytton
Mabel Vere Miss Gladys Cooper
Jacob Flood Henry Wenman
Gerald Wantage H. R. Hignett
Adams Ernest Hendrie
Capt. Noel Corkoran Malcolm Cherry
Margaret Miss Margaret Fraser
Mrs. Haines Miss Barbara Gott
Emily Miss Moya Nugent
Kennedy Bird Edgar B. Payne
Sam Bentley J. R. Tozer

Criticism by
J. T. GREIN.

Here, at the Playhouse, is "something
to see"—something as gladdening to the
heart as one of these fine May mornings,
all sun and warmth and freshness. This
first selection made by Miss Gladys Cooper
in her new capacity of actresses-manageress
augurs well for the future, and excellently
well for the present. The public will take
to Mr. Cyril Harcourt's new comedy, partly
for the delightful wit which manifests itself
in the opening and concluding acts; partly
for the little sensation of the kitchen scene
—which, though it may make the hit of the
play, is perhaps the least excellent thing
in it; and partly, of course, for the charm
and beauty of Miss Gladys Cooper herself,
who is so essentially English in her fasci-
nation that to offer up incense at her
shrine seems almost like taking part in
some patriotic rite.

ACTRESS AND AUTHORESS.
In "The Misdemeanor Lady" Miss Gladys
Cooper played the part of an actress hard
up for a part. In "Wanted, a Husband,"
she plays the part of an authoress hard up
for a plot. In each case, curiously enough,
the dilemma led the heroine to extract an
offer of marriage from a man with whom
she was not in love, being already en-
gaged, but whom she ultimately married.
But here the resemblance ends.

Mabel Vere, a lady novelist of the type
who frankly writes to sell, and depicts
her heroes kissing the "creamy necks" of
her heroines, is hard up for copy. To
supply the deficiency, she advertises for a
husband, and three applicants call upon
her in response. The first, a Colonial being
a mere dramatic device, may be dismissed
here as unceremoniously as he is dismissed
on the stage—by the application of a dose
of jin-jitsu. He does not appear after the
opening scene. The second and third ap-
plicants, however, are of more importance.
One is Adams, a butler, with whom, in
her quest of characterisation, she arranges
to take tea on the day following. The
other—we may pardon the coincidence—is
his master, Captain Noel Corkoran, who
instantly strikes up one of those friendly
antagonisms which are the foundation of
so many stage matches.

MABEL COMES TO TEA.
The duel is begun, with considerable spirit,
in Mabel Vere's drawing-room in Act I:
it is continued in Noel Corkoran's kitchen
in Act II. For the gallant captain, as
you may expect, is easily lured by the
dramatist into his own lower regions. The
cook herself is the good fairy unawares;
for, learning, when Mabel comes to tea,
that Adams has offered marriage to this
mysterious lady, and bitterly mortified at
finding herself supplanted in the perfidious
butler's affections, she goes off into such
hysterics that she is incapable of cooking
the captain's dinner. Of course, he de-
scends to find out what the potter is about,
and equally of course he does so only
to find the lady of his dreams endeavor-
ing to cook his dinner for him, and cook-
ing it in a fashion that would have sent
the good Mrs. Beeton into a swoon.

There is great play over the oven, and
the chickens done to a cinder and the rice-
cudding burnt to a "frazzle." And the
scene concludes with the flight of Mabel
Vere, who grows a trifle anxious over the
captain's coming-on disposition. Follows
a charming final act, in which the butler
and the man to whom Mabel was once
engaged are neatly disposed of, leaving the
coast clear for Corkoran, who has the
audacity to kiss the authoress against her
will.

GOOD "COPY!"
And yet—who shall judge whether it
was against her will or no? True, she
flares up and tells him that she has only
been playing with him, that she has only
regarded her adventures with him as so
much "copy." But then, a woman all
over, she puts her cheek temptingly up to
him again, and when he asks her what
she wants, replies, "More copy" with
such demure irresistibility that—that down
comes the curtain, and we are charmed
beyond measure.

Miss Gladys Cooper, in all this, plays
with a most captivating carelessness which
goes far to excuse some of the rather "un-
sportmanlike" wiles of the character she
portrays. Mr. Malcolm Cherry, as the
Captain, is as admirably self-confident as
any wise lover would be with such an
independent girl to conquer. We must not
forget the three kitchen wenches of Miss
Barbara Gott (an ample and satisfying
cook), Miss Margaret Fraser (a highly re-
spectable and well-spoken housemaid), and
Miss Moya Nugent (a most sweet and
charming kitchenmaid); while Mr. Ernest
Hendrie as the fourth denizen of the down-
stairs republic gave perhaps the best per-
formance of the whole evening.

There will be prosperity at the Play-
house if the public displays its usual good
sense as dramatic critic.

THE THEATREGOERS' GUIDE.

List of West End Theatres open, with address, phone number, current attraction, and time of starting the performance.

ADELPHI (Strand).—"High Jinks," 8. Matinees, Wednesday and Saturday at 2. Gerr. 2645 and 8886.	ST. MARTIN'S (West-st., Cambridge-circus).—"Damaged Goods," 8.30; Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 1243 and 3416.
AMBASSADORS (West-st., Cambridge-circus).—"2150," 8.30, Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4660.	VAUDEVILLE (Strand).—"Cheep," 8.15; Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.15. Gerr. 3815.
COMEDY (Panton-street).—"Bubbly," 8.15. Monday, Friday, and Saturday, 2.15. Gerr. 3724.	WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"London Pride," 8.15; Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15. Regent 3028 and 3029.
COURT (Sloane-square).—"Hush," 8.30. Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 848.	VARIETY THEATRES.
CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus).—"A Little Bit of Fluff," 8.30. Matinees, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30. Regent 3365 and Gerr. 3844.	ALHAMBRA (Leicester-square).—"The Bing Girls are There," 8.30; Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 5064.
DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 2. Gerr. 202.	COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—"Augustus York and Robert Leonard in 'In Lin-gerie,' Ruth Vincent, Wilkie Bard, Clarice Mayne, 'Poached Eggs and Pearls,' Billy Wells and Elclair Twins, and varieties, 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7541.
DRURY LANE (Catherine-street, W.C.).—"Intolerance," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 2588.	EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Hanky Panky," 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 3527.
DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"Daddy Long Legs," 2.30; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 514.	LONDON HIPPODROME (Cranbourne-street).—"Zig-Zag," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.
GAIETY (Strand).—"Theodore and Co.," 8. Wednesday, Saturday, 2. Gerr. 2780.	LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus).—"Cheerio," 8.30; Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3886.
GARRICK (Charing Cross-road).—"Carl Rosa Opera Co., 8. Wednesday and Saturday, 2. Gerr. 9513.	OXFORD (Oxford-street).—"Bransby Williams, Two Bobs, Arthur Roberts, Duncan and Godfrey, Daisy Wood, Lucille Benstead, &c., 7.50. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3934.
GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Suzette," 8.15; Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 2.30. Gerr. 8722.	PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Van-ity Fair," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6834.
HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post," 8.30; Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.30. Regent 6030.	PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.).—"Hetty King, Will Evans, Albert Whelan, Lorna and Toots Pounds, May Moore Duprez, &c., 2.30, 6.10, and 9. Gerr. 1004.
HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Matinees, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.15. Gerr. 1777.	
KINGSWAY (Great Queen-street, W.C.).—"Ghosts," 8.30; Wed. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.	
	LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 7.45; Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7617-8.
	LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Romance," 8.15; Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 3687.
	NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Old Lady Shows Her Medals," "Wurzel-Plummer," "Seven Women," 8.30; Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30. Regent 4466, 4467.
	PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross).—"Wanted, a Husband," 8.30; Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.
	PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-street, W.).—"Anthony in Wonderland," daily, 2.30. Wednesday and Saturday, 8.30. Gerr. 7482.
	QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Passing of the Third Floor Back," 2.30 (except Thursday); Thursday and Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 9437.
	ROYALTY (Dean-street, W.C.).—"Rem-nant," 8.15; Thursday and Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 3855.
	ST. JAMES'S (King-street, St. James's).—"The Aristocrat," 8 (except Monday); Wednesday, Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 3903.
	SAVOY (Savoy-court, Strand).—"Ham-let," Thursday, Friday, 8; Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 3366.
	SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Three Cheers," 8.30; Wednesday, Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 6666.
	STRAND (Aldwych, W.C.).—"Under Cover," 8.15; Thursday and Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 3830 and City 3365.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Violinist; any bus.; cinema or cafe preferred. VIOLINIST, 160, Heywood-st., Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, to the Managers of Theatres and Cinemas, Miss JACK ALLEN, the famous Violinist, and her Orchestra, are returning to town after an absence of two years, for the season only. For terms, address, Miss A. WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-street, W.

WANTED, London, engagement, Violinist; good repertoire; exp. Cinema and Varieties; ineligible; can commence Monday next. Box 1145, "The Era."

WANTED, Eng. as Violinist; ex. Op. Drms., Var., Pcts., 5 years one engagement; ineligible. CROFT, Grand T. Hall.

WANTED, by Violinist, Leader; highest abilities; experienced all business; deputising; London only. Box 1124, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement, by Cornet or Trumpet (pro.); evenings only; or deputising; town. TRUMPET, 71, Myddleton-square, E.C. 1.

WANTED, Eng. by E-flat Bombardier and D Bass; combine or single. BASSO, 24, Hoxton-road, Torquay.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass; references as to ability, reliability, and experience; non-eligible. Box 1130, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombonist, Summer Eng. in all lines; exempt; 5, Gile-st., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, engagement, by Saxophone specialist; high and low pitch instruments; combine Clarinet if wanted; London only. SAXOPHONIST, 28, Crowndale-road, N.W. 1.

WANTED, Known, First-class Cellist; free in the afternoons, will be glad of an engagement. Further particulars from A. E. 143, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W. 15.

WANTED, in Devon, or near, for summer, Eng. by "Cellist-Vocalist, A.R.C.M. Apply, Box 1125, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lady Cellist, diseng. wishes Eng. evenings pref. exp. "Cellist," 24, Manchester-st., Manchester Sq. W.

WANTED, by Cellist (lady), engagement in cinema; near London; exp. 140, Ramsden-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Eng. by Lady Cellist and Double Bass. Box 1131, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lady Cellist, diseng. shortly; 5 years' exp. pictures; London, preferably S.W. district; one performance daily. Box 1147, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Pianist-Organist (must be) London only. DOROTHY MELLISH, 25, St. Albans-road, Harlesden, N.W. 10.

WANTED, Known, Orchestral Pianist and Organist; Mrs. Hansen, 22, Birdland-road, East Hill, S.W. 15, diseng. after June 4 for deputising; offer for short seaside engagement invited.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Pianist; sight reader; experienced; reliable. PIANIST, 5, Thornfield-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Eng. by really First-class Lady Pianist-Vocalist and Conductor; experienced all lines; excellent references; Seaside preferred. PIANIST, Lyons Café, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Orch. Pianist (lady), thor. exp. desires Eng. hotel, café, or high-class Cinema. Address, PIANIST, 15, Palace-gardens, Enfield, London, N.

WANTED, Eng. by Relief Picture Pianist (lady), May 21. PIANIST, 15, Hilda-road, Brixton, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Eng. by Pianist (lady); var. and pictures; own library. S. 43, Cavendish-place, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Lady seeks Eng. as Pianist, Pianist or Cashier in cinema. M. G. NOAKES, Linden-grove, K. Sydenham.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, diseng. Mon. PIANIST, 594, High-rd., Chiswick, W. 4.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Pianist; London only; orchestra; relief. CLARA MUSCANT, 92, Downs Park-road, Clapton, N.E.

WANTED, Known, lady desires re-eng. as Solo or Relief Pianist at Pits.; refs. B. 2, St. Thomas-square, Hackney.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Picture Pianist (lady); orchestra; good reader; salary low if sure. HAYES, 16, Argyle-street, King's Cross.

WANTED, Summer Season engagement by exp. Lady Pianist; excellent sight reader; accompanist. MISS W. K. RICHARDSON, 15, Clare-road, Cotham, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, disengaged, an experienced Harpist-Pianist; highest of references from notable conductors; can also introduce a good quartette, including harp. T. 32, The Drive, Glendale Green, N.W. 4.

WANTED, by Cinema Pianist (lady) re-engagement as Relief, or deputise. Address, 9, Kensington-gardens-square, W. 2.

WANTED, Known, Cin. Pianist desires Afternoon Eng.; good solo repertoire; can play with orchestra. PIANIST, 13, Remola-rd., Norwood-rd., S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for THOMAS PINDER'S CIRCUS, touring Scotland, good Ground or Aerial Acts or Small Animal Act. Those doing 2 acts preferred. State acts and lowest terms, Slamanham, Stirling-shire. Also First and Second Cornets write in.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS. WANTED, Character Reader, Lady, Whitsun; Kiosk on Pier; also Gold Wire and Optic Workers. Apply, SALZEDO, 75, Moatyn-street, Llandudno.

WANTED, WANTED, a DIVER. LADY or GENTLEMAN. Apply, MANAGER, Pier, Hastings.

WALLACE BAND COMMITTEE. 25th ANNUAL HOSPITAL GALA. WANTED, WANTED, Fun Fair. Write, EDWIN KITE, 92, Serpentine-road, Wallasey.

WANTED to Sell, Cinema Music, 1 or 2 Pianos, orchestra. Stamp for lists. SHURMAN, 67, Perham-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, to Sell, orig. Sketches, Duologues, Monologues, Plays, Songs, &c. written to order. F. WARREN, 25, St. Mary's-terrace, W. 2.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Pianos, 600 notes, "Ariadne," "Robinson Crusoe." E. DOTTRIDGE, 63, Union-street West, Oldham.

WANTED, to Sell, Oak and Light Chambers, Cloths, Ground Rows, Stage Cloths, Set Pieces, Rostrums, Borders, &c. SHARP, 272, St. James's-road, Old Kent-road, S.E. 1.

WANTED, to Sell, T.R., Leigh, Lancashire, fully licensed; seating 1,500; electric light; well stocked with scenery; everything ready for opening; lease 99 years; low ground rent; part payment arranged on mortgage if required. I. W. CRAGG, 68, Kennington-road, S.E. 4.

WANTED, to Sell, about 40 String Quartets and Quintettes, by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Rubenstein, Reinecke, &c. No reasonable offer refused. Can be seen at DE WOLFE'S, 157, Wardour-street.

WANTED, Suites, Overtures, Mus. Com. and Tavan Selections, S. K. O. and Piano. VICTORS, 3, Den-road, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED to Let, Woman's Past, Soldier and Man, What Man Made Her, "The Grip," Frank Harvey WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C. 2.

WANTED, to Let, First-class Rehearsal Room; good Piano; terms moderate. Apply, Mrs. PEXFOLD, The "White Bird," Kennington Park-road. Almost opposite Kennington Theatre.

WANTED, to Let, Yashir Workmen's Hall, for Cinema or Drama if required; holding capacity 900. For full particulars write SAMUEL JONES, Sec.

WANTED, to Let, Large Rehearsal Room, with piano; any day-time during the day; adj. Leicester-sq. Tube. Tel. 4827 Ger. 9, Gt. Newport-st., 3rd floor.

WANTED, to Let, for Stock, various dress, CHARLES DARRELL, 19, Pelham-square, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Magnificent West-End position, offices, right in the centre of the theatre and cinema land; moderate rent; suit Agencies or Film Business. Apply, J. T. RUFFELL, 5, Great Newport-street, W.C.

PARTNERS WANTED. WANTED, for Music Hall Posing Show, Lady Partner. Posing, &c. B. G. F., 29, Ryland-road, Birmingham.

BAND PARTS, SONGS, ETC. WANTED, Known, Band Pts. Arrd. Ord. song, 12 4s. 14 5s.; transp., 1s. extra. E. WEEKS, M. D., 66, Queen's-walk, Nottingham.

MISCELLANEOUS. WANTED, Known, Theatrical and Fancy Costumes, Wigs, Toe-shoes, &c. Make-up instructed. PEEK 6d., stamp for catalogue. THEATRICAL STORES, 7, Derby-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Dramatic Work a Specialty and well arranged; quickness and accuracy guaranteed; highest references. Short stories, 10d. 1,000 words. Duplicating. EDITH BELL, Craven House, Kingsway (opposite Holborn Tube).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED. McDOWELL'S AGENCY. Revues, Tops, and Big Star Specialities, also Acta in all lines, for immediate dates. Apply by letter to 72, New Oxford-street, Telephone, Museum 284. Telegrams, "Ancestrae, West Cent."

NATY DAY'S AGENCY. WANTED, Tops of every description. Acta requiring dates in the South-West of England can have immediate bookings. Albion House, 59, New Oxford-st., W.C. Rooms 29, 29a, and 30. Telephone, Regent 430, Museum 1965. Telegrams, "Variatum, Westcent, London."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines and Prices, but must be worth the money. TOM PACEY, Kelham, Newark.

Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit. Pavilion Theatre, Leicester. WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Revues.

Star Tops, And Acts of every description. For immediate and future dates. Acts unknown to this Circuit entertained for a trial week.

All coms. direct to the Manager, JOSEPH LAWRENCE, Phone, 2,655, Leicester.

WANTED, Artists, Doubles, Singles, on shares (combination), Monday next, South Wales. "DRESDEN," Victoria, Lye, Staffs.

MILNE'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 135, Wellington-street, Glasgow. WANTED, Specialities, Comedy Doubles, &c., new to Scotland and Ireland. Date sheets, lowest, first letter.

WANTED, Monday next, for LILIAN BEAUMONT'S Sketches, "Sally Mine" and "Woman's Rights" (2 ladies, 1 gent.). This, Regent, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, and May 29, onward, by the most Laughable Farce, "THE DEMON PHOTOGRAPHER," 22 minutes' all Comedy Show. Can be booked through any principal Agent, or direct to CHARLIE BELL, 63, Barrington-rd., Brixton, London, S.W. 9.

Fred Powell and John Brittain in "Original and Diverging Scenes," "GETTING THIS DINNER," Three people, 15 minutes' merriment. WANTED, Whit week, on. POWELL, This, Hippodrome, Connaught's Quay, N. Wales. Next, Hippo., Eveshamer Port.

WANTED, Known, Sinclair Neill's "Touch of the Child" Sketch. Vacant Mon. next, June 4, 11. PAUL BERESFORD, Palace, Huddersfield.

Enormous success. Carter Livesey, in "The Would-be Actors." This week, at the Palace, Walthamstow. 7.15. Top of the Bill. 9.45. Verdict: Better than ever. WANTED, June 4, onward, with exceptions. Bookings include Syndicate Tour, Yarmouth, Chelmsford, New Brighton, Regent, Salford. Address, 85, Kellett-road, Brixton, S.W. 2.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 28 and several later dates, follow gigantic success Empire, Bristol. FREDERICK BENT, unrivalled Dame, Specialty Comedian, and a charming brette, KITTY TAYNTON. An Ideal Comedy Act, interspersed with original Vocal and Musical Items. Address, 18, Horfield-road, Bristol.

WANTED, May 28, June 4, 25, by "THE BROS. WEBB," World-renowned Comedians, May 21, Palace, Cork. P.A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Known, SILENT TATE and AMEE, Novelty Act, May 21 and 28. Coms., 119, Walnut-st., Highdown, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 28, by BARNARD and BUNNY, in Novelty Comedy Act. This, Palace, Carlisle, or 35, Portland-place.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday next, CHAVEN and CROFT, Comedy Duo, Wire, 137, St. George's-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by ST. JOHN and BICKLEY, May 21, June 4, onward. Comedy, Music, Singing and Dancing. May 14, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, May 21, 28, the Great RHODE and LOCHIE, featuring "The Lizard's Nest," clever Comedy and Variety Theatre, Birmingham, or house, Terrace, Lawrence-street. Phone, 307, Central, Birmingham.

WANTED, May 28, GALLIMORE and CARLTON TRIO, Comedy Act, Vandyke Club, 98, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, Gallimore, Frippieries, London. Phone, 3880 Gerrard. Monday next, Empire, Bristol. June 4, Tivoli, New Brighton; June 11, Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, May 28, June 4, North, GIBBON DUO. This week, Palace, Hammersmith, London. Next, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, May 21 and 28, SURREY and CARLTON TRIO, Comedy Act, "A Midnight Tragedy," Our Sarah Ann. Wire, T.R., Guildford.

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MAY 21, 1917.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and other, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR. BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 4.30).—Harry Hall, pictures.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Foxwell presents "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "The Vicar's Wife."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—H. Pelton's revue, "Darlings," Edgar Curtis, Pathe's Gazette, Vine and Brewer.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Laurence Wright's Ensemble, Walter Kemp and company in "Jack's Invention," La Belle Julia, the Littlefields, Reg Faze, Mark and Note, Bessie Brenne and Walter Erard, Pathe's Gazette.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"Her Forbidden Sacrifice."

PAISLEY RINK VARIETY PALACE (rehearsal, 6.30).—Six Artillery Lads, Ivy Gallard, pictures.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT. CANNOCK HIPPODROME.—Elleman's Dramatic Season.

WEST BROMWICH NEW EMPIRE.—"Otto and Olga" revue, "The Very Thing," Bioscope, and company as booked.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS. BRUXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Sam Mayo, The Mongadors, Leo Cud, and company in the Six Musical Navies, La Belle Nello, Mme. Lauretta's Eight Ro-settes, Walter, Walters, Daimler and Eddie, The Randalles, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—C. Hayden Coffin, Sam Mayo, A. D. Robbins, Susie Marney, Dugan Sen Brothers, Belle Sylvia, Flynn and Hayson, Mervan Girls, Harry Fields, Bioscope.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Ching Wu, Manny and Roberts, Charles Meteor Trio, Two Tomboys, Maxford and O'Neill, Violet King, Roy Mex, Bina and Kitai, Dolly Lee, Bioscope.

RUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Whidden and Kuning, Barton and Ashley in "Money Talks," Capt. Grahame and his Baboons, Middle Hero, Five Keith Proctors, Alice Regan, Dorothy Storm, Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—"Cheerio," Vernon Watson, Meredith and Adm. Kathleen Starling.

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—"The Mikado Family," Chas. Hart, The Piccadillys, Wilson and Waring, Those 4 Kids, The Edwittes, Josie Desaine, Harry Freeman, Harry Fields, Bioscope, Jack Whiteford.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—Arthur Robert, Gordon and D'Herby, Daisy Wood, Charles Hart, Niblo and Doris, Emma Japanese Trio, Lucille Benstead, Harry Taylor, Duncan and Godfrey, The Artois, Will Lacey.

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Whidden and Kuning, The 10 French Algerians, Edith Carter's company in "Smith, V.C.," Susie Marney, Frederic Culpiat, Williams and Parker, Ether Castaldini, Bioscope, &c.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2).—Frank and Vesta, Daisy Wood, The Deans, Shaw Troupe, Joe and Willy, Arthur Rigby and company in "Clara, the Cleaner," Countess Di Rubadi, George Dixon, Those Two Nondescripts, France and Stewart, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Belle Davis and her Crackers, Jacks, The Shaw Troupe, Romaine and Dainton, Ferguson and Mack, Francis and Alfred, Ted Waite, Doris Pearce, Evelyn Earle, Bioscope.

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Sydney Bransgrove presents "Our Boys."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES. BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Carl Hertz, Josie Leyton, Tom E. Hughes, Madge Morley and Co. in "After the Races," Fitzgerald Girls, Bioscope.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Albert White, Wolkowsky's Orchestral and Dancers, Daisy James, Percy Honri, 2 Imps, Hanbury and Schofield in "His Last Night Out," Hilda Stewart, Dolcie Carriello, Bioscope.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 4).—Reeves' Revue, "High Explosive," Wash Wynne, Athas and Collins, Elsie Kerry, Bioscope.

CROYDON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Phil Ray, J. W. Rickaby, Jessie Preston, Phil Ascot, Four George Prince, O'Gorman Bros., Lilian Byrne, Vera Caine, Bioscope, The Grahams.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—John Lawson and Co. in "The Ducky," Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker on the Panel," Coverdale's, Bobby Thornton, Alexandre, Marisli, Edie Coolville, Nellie Wigley, Bioscope.

HOLBORN EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Camille Clifford and Co. in "The Girl of the Future," Julien Henry and Co. in musical ensemble, Wolkowsky's Orchestral, Nevitt, Sydney Black, Lee Ephraim and Co. in "The Meanest Man on Earth," Mabel Manson, Black Diamonds, Bioscope.

LEFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Fred Karno's Revue, "All Women," Cissie Lupino, Four Chiffs, Bioscope.

ISLINGTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Fred Wilmet's revue, "Wait and See," Gilbert Heron and company in "In the Dock," Bioscope.

KILBURN EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker's Wedding," G. H. Elliott, Pinkie Whyte, Marnie Gilbert, Bessie Clifford, Sid Mitchell and his Danc Girls, Geo. E. Carnell, Vera Rochdale, Wanda and Della, Bioscope.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Walter Howard's company, "The Story of the Rosary," Bioscope.

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Will Evans, Harry Weldon, Albert Whelan, Nellie Wallace, Hilda Glyder, May Moore Duprez, The Muses, The Flying Banwards, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Bioscope, Sutcliffe Family.

STOLL TOUR. ARDWICK EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12.30).—Neil Gow, "Reveland," Cliff Berzale's Circus, Halma, Dainty Dances, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—"Pictures and Varieties."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—J. G. Taylor, Ian Colquhoun, Lockhart's, Elephants, Rosa Hamel, Pasquall Brothers, Haley's Juveniles, O'Hara Sisters, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12.30).—Rene Ralph, Austen Temple, Sandy Powell, Jerry and Co., Bioscope.

CHISWICK EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Clifford and Grey, Burr and Hope, Tom Foy, Miss Effie Mann, Daisy Sloan, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—

Holson and Bert, Wells and Mayban, Mile, Reeds, The Khaki Boys, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Lennie Hill, Herbert la Martine, Bioscope.

LONDON ALHAMBRA.—"The Bing Girls are There."

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—York and Leonard, in "In Lingerie," Clarice Mayne and "That," Miss Mabel Mann, "In the Trenches," Jack Lane, Maidie Scott, Romanoff, Romy la Rocca, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—Torino, Sam Hilton, Amy Evans, Les Trombetta, Lole Conn, Bioscope.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).—"The Lady Barbers."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Mills Jilison, "Love Letters," Hartley Wonders, Wells and Mayban, Manuel Vega, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Shidder, Katie Hughes, Agda, Mazur and Gazette, Mills and Norman, Daphne Wynne, Ady Condie, Marie Lacey, Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRE CONTROL LING CO. LTD. BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"Girl from Cairo."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Cassidy, Walmer, The Anartos, Nina Gordon, Melville Gideon and Marie Hancock, Miss Vesta Tilly, Scotch Kelly, &c.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Tokwa Troupe, Miles Slavovale, Quintette, Felice Lyne, Parr and Farland, Eda Retford, Jonny's, Bam-Bam Boys.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Gt. Wieland, Harrington and Mace, Florence Wray and Co. in "His Own Way," Jack Birchley, Hope Charteris, Huxter Bros, Cornelia and Eddie.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Jack Delino, Oswald Bemand, Payne and Hillard, Hudson Quintette, R. G. Knowles, The Krakas, &c.

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"The Torador."

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Piccadilly and Imp," Those Three Girls, Geo. Graves and Co., "Koffo of Bond Street," Nora Delany, Merry Four, Leon Rogee, Kotenichi Troupe.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Great Escape," "They Didn't Want To Do It," Frank Case.

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Ed. E. Brown, Betty Washington, Gerlie Gittana, Thornton and Della, Medley, Brock and See Bros.

SOUTHERN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Two Vesta, Victor and George, Rita Gerald, "Mumming Birds," Victor Kelly, &c.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 11).—"Chilton," "Dream Girl," Zelinda Davis.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT. (Rehearsals, 1). BRIDGWATER PALACE.—Leonard Mortimer and company.

EASTON, PALACE.—Harry Jordan.

PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—Harry Jordan.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Harry Jordan.

WIMBORNE PALACE.—Rameses, Daisy Lorraine, Eleanor and Bertie, Olive Temple, Sinclair and Lady.

WIMBORNE PALACE.—Eva Sylva.

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LONDON-VICTORIA PALACE.—Margaret Cooper, Goodfellow and Gregson, Morry Oakes, Geo. Miller and Co. in "A Sister to Assist," Sam Barton, Pauline Russell, Jeannie Hartley.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Sara Melita, Johnny Dwyer, Irene Rose, Seven Bastians, Alfred Wellesley and Co., Tiny Arnold, Clifford and Daisy, Ben Beyer and Augustus.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—James Harcourt and company in "The Headmaster."

PLYMOUTH PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—"Johnny Oie," Bruce Green, Leslie Elliott, The Bradshaws, Park's Elton Boys, D. Mayo.

READING PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Four Quaint Q's, Yazo, Maxwell Carver, Spence and Jocelyn, Pathe's Gazette, May Erre and Ho, Bert Elliott, Ellis Barriton, Les Kicks.

SALFORD REGENT (rehearsal, 11).—Gilbert Payne, Pierce and Roslyn, Johnny Fields, Alva Viste, Madge Clifford and Partridge, Assist. in "Er" sketch, Victor James, Alvarez Bros., and pictures.

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Alfred C. Denville's company, "The Spirit of the Empire."

LIVERPOOL. ROYAL COURT.—P. Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd., M. D. Mr. F. W. Wyndham, M. Mr. Arthur Lawrence.

The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company have had a most successful fortnight here, and opened their last week's stay on Monday with "Patience."

SHAKESPEARE—L. and M. Mr. W. W. Kelly, A. M. Mr. Herbert M. King.—We are having another visit of "The Gayest of the Gay," Mr. J. Forbes Knowles' company doing every justice to the dramatic romance, which, on Monday evening, was received with genuine pleasure by a large audience. The character of Jack Latimer found in Mr. Knowles a worthy exponent, whose work met with merited recognition; Miss Mary Lovett, in the name-part, showed exceptional talent; and Miss Susie Whitmore, as Sister Susan, gave valuable support.

ROTUNDA—M. Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M. Mr. Fred Coles.—Variety programmes here continue to prove popular. That of the present week holds the names of Miss Florrie Forde, who is presenting "Midnight Revels." The rest of the bill is sustained by Alice Edwards, male impersonator, and the Mario Duo, triple bar comedians.

PLAYHOUSE—P. Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co., Ltd.; B. M. Mr. Max Jerome.—After a successful run of three weeks "The Boomerang" was withdrawn on Saturday, and on Monday evening the company gave a particularly good presentation of the late Laurence Irving's "The Unwritten Law." Mr. Ashton Pearce, as Rodion, and Miss Muriel Pratt, as Sonia, at times held the audience spellbound, and fine work was also done by Mr. Wilfred E. Shine (Bezak), Mr. H. Leander (Keller), Miss Doris Lloyd (Mrs. Raskolnikoff), and Miss Eileen Thorndike (Dounia).

EMPIRE—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M. Mr. George Manners.—Monday evening four big audiences were won by Top was Ella Shidder, whose latest song went with a swing; King and Benson, the popular duo, proved as acceptable as ever; Fred Conquest and company caused great laughter with their funny sketch, "What a Do"; the Nelson and Good Trio of comedy acrobats afforded much delight; Ted Hopkins, the Welsh humorist, had several new things; rounds of applause greeted the talented Cornette Trio, who provided a refined musical and vocal act; and Petite Nina showed her motor cycling sea lions to advantage.

LYRIC—L. Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—The favourite, Sam Mayo, head of the bill, Barry and Fay prove diverting with their patter and comedy boxing act; Jack and Jean present a novel singing and dancing scene; the Decars and "Tomato" have a comedy animal act; and others in the list are Bert Joyce, dainty comedienne; Rene, a clever little lady juggler; and Mars, military musical expert.

PAVILION—P. Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M. Mr. George F. Slater.—The Empire Grand English Opera Company had a good week of it, popular works, given twice nightly, finding much acceptance. The four principals of the combination are Mr. John Child, Mr. George Nelson, Miss Annie Annetta, and Mr. Aubrey Standing.

ROYAL PALACE—M. Mr. M. Montgomerie; R. M. Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The attraction is Mr. Gus Levine's "Bow Belles" revue, which went well on Monday evening. The principals are Mr. Levine, Miss Grace Collins, while specialties are provided by Snakella, contortionist; Sisters Venor, dancers; the Gordons, dancers, &c.; Rissie Ann, vocalist and dancer; and the Four Rustics, vocalists and instrumentalists.

OLYMPIA—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M. Mr. E. W. James.—That brilliant revue, "Joyland," which had such a long and successful run here on its last visit, comes again for a week. On Monday evening there were two big audiences to enjoy Mr. Albert de Courville's magnificent production. Mr. Stephen Adeson, the principal comedian, proved as funny as ever; Mr. Charles Jerome assisted greatly with his diverting antics; the fine, rich voice of Mr. Eric Marshall was heard to advantage in several stirring songs; and Miss May Morton and Miss Isobel Scott, as the principal ladies, afforded the greatest satisfaction.

HIPPODROME—M. D. Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M. Mr. Walter de Frece.—The bill is occupied by the "A La Carte" revue, which is finding much acceptance. In the cast are Billy Leonard, Dorothy Vaughan, Lucello (violinist), Ryder Sloan, Dot and Doris, Pickford, Leslie Arthurs, Bert O'Toole, Daisy West, and Cresce Leonard. The variety section of the programme includes Sammy Shields, Reco, amusing acrobat, and Evelyn Taylor, comedienne.

GARSTON EMPRESS—P. Garston Empire Theatre, Ltd.; G. M. Mr. Harry Barclay.—A visit is being paid by Mr. Will Dalton's musical comedy burlesque, "Prills and Fancies," in which appear the Hanaway Brothers, the Kennels, May Garry, Nellie Southworth, and Doris Kelchie Bower.

Boots The Chemists' Boots' corner, Church street, 11.13, London-road; 1. Leese street, 203, Scotland-road; 8. West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Leese Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord street.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. L. H. W.—Miss Marie Lloyd was born on Feb. 12, 1870.

J. Huddleston—The song you mean is entitled "Sympathy," and is published by Schairner and Co. It may be obtained of Messrs. Francis and Day, Charing Cross-road, London.

Harry Taft, whose new act is a great success, has been booked on the Moss Tour by Mr. George Barclay.

Frank Varney and Marie Brett, who are just now making a great success on the Stoll Tour, return to town on May 28 to the Granville, Waltham Green. These two artists have been specially engaged by John Tiller to play in his revue, for 14 weeks, at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, this summer.

MORNY CASH

THE LANCASHIRE LAD.
This Week—L.T.V. Next Week—L.T.V.
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HILDA STEWART

In Her 15-Min. Comedy-Drama "THE FLAME."
MAY 21—L.T.V.

FALL OF THE CHISWICK E-----

(French Official.)

ALBERT BROUETT

(THE FRENCH "POILU")

Presented by EDELSTEN & BURNS

At 7.55 p.m. Albert Brouett, with the assistance of his "Tommy," launched the attack. At 8.5 p.m. the battle was won and the standard of the Entente Cordiale was floating amid cheers.

The Objective Next Week is directed towards H - - - , Southampton.

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AMUSEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. ALBERT H. WALCH, "Florinda," Narong-road, Caulfield, Melbourne.)
MELBOURNE, March 6.—Messrs. J. and N. Taft launched their second dramatic venture on Saturday last, when an almost entirely new company presented for the first time in Australia the American comedy, by Winchell Smith and John E. Hazzard, entitled "Turn to the Right." The management have been careful in the selection of artists forming the new company, evidently foreseeing the wisdom of maintaining the good impression already established under their name by the recently successful "Peg o' My Heart" company. The play deals with the reformation of three crooks, and was capably played before a packed house. The following artists worked individually and collectively with good effect:—Messrs. John Junior, Stapleton Kent, George Chalmers, Gaston Morvale, Maurice Dudley, L. Goldberg, Vincent Dennis, Carlton Stuart, and the Misses Margaret Calvert, Nancy Stewart, Eileen Sparks, and Lizette Parkes.

The Allan Wilkie Co. are in their last week. The return season has been remarkably successful. It is quite "on the cards" that Mr. Wilkie will remain in Australia and provide a permanent Shakespearean company. Messrs. Fuller announce a return season of the Gonzales Italian Grand Opera Co., with a big range of operas to be played in quick succession.

Messrs. Williamson are again utilising the Theatre Royal for moving pictures, where W. D. Griffith's fine film "Intolerance" is attracting large audiences.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW.
"The Ideals of Painting," by J. Comyns Carr. Published by Macmillan and Co. Price 7s. 6d. net.

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"ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.

BY OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT.

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

ERA-FINANCIAL SECTION.

As foreboded last week, the market in Amusement shares has been comparatively very active, and the majority of the quotations have moved upward. The most active and rise is shown in the shares of the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres. The Ordinary shares were dealt in, just prior to the annual shareholders' meeting, at the "low record" price of 20s.; they have since risen to 23s. 2/4s. with quite a number of transactions recorded in the Stock Exchange Lists, and the quotation is at present marked 1-1/4. The quotation for the Coliseum Ordinary shares is the turn better at 33-3/4 for the £1 Ordinary shares. The Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ordinary is marked up at 24-3/4. These figures prove conclusively that there is good buying for the well-managed and sound shares of amusement companies, notwithstanding the protests and published views of interested parties concerning the multitude of difficulties under which this particular industry is supposed to be working. As I have several times pointed out, the balance-sheets, as they are published from time to time, continue to show actual results which invariably are quite satisfactory, and that there is an important group taking advantage of every little "set-back" in the quotations. As soon as this fact is accepted by shareholders generally there will be much more buying of shares in the best class of amusement companies.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"ALPHA" (Wimborne).—You ask for particulars of the National Electric Theatre, and the reason that the quotation has fallen so considerably. As your enquiry will no doubt be of interest to a large number of shareholders, the following detailed information is given:—The au-

thorized capital of the National Electric Theatres, Ltd., is £50,000; divided up into 98,000 Ordinary shares of 10s. each, and 20,000 Ordinary shares of 1s. each. The whole of the Deferred shares and 51,000 Ordinary shares have been issued. The balance-sheet is made up to June 30 in each year, and usually submitted in July. The Ordinary shares last year received 20 per cent., of which 10 per cent. was paid by way of interim dividend on Jan. 31, 1916, and 10 per cent. by way of final dividend. The Deferred shares received a dividend of 2s. per share, equal to 200 per cent. The Ordinary shares rank first for non-cumulative dividend up to 20 per cent., the Deferred are then entitled to a similar amount, and the surplus profits are then divisible as to one-half to the Ordinary shareholders and the other half to the Deferred shareholders. The shares have recently been dealt in, and the official markings were recorded as follows:—Ordinary 9s. 6d., Deferred 7s. In the early part of this year the Ordinaries were quoted 12s. 6d.-15s. The big drop in the quotations can only be due to selling on the part of interested parties, and forebodes a diminution in the dividend announcements for the current year.

ENQUIRER (Walsall).—The Government stamp duty on transfers is payable by the purchaser. The duty is "ad valorem," and on £175 (the amount of the transaction in question) the duty would be 17s. 6d., plus the transfer fee payable to the secretary of the company, which covers the cost of registering yourself as a new shareholder in the books of the company, and the issue to you of a share certificate is 2s. 6d. Consequently you will find the broker's contract (according to the copy which you send me) perfectly in order. G. A.

CURRENT MARKET QUOTATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE, MUSIC HALL AND CINEMA COMPANIES' SHARES.

The following Quotations, made up to Tuesday morning in each week, are supplied to us by Messrs. Keith, MacAllister and Co., Ltd., 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

Alhambra (London) £1 Ord. ..	1-13/4	London Th. of Var. £1 Ord. ..	2/6-3/6
4th Dec. (1912) ..	80-85	Manchester Hippo. £5 Ord. ..	5/6-5/8
Assoc. Prov. Pic. Houses £1 Ord. ..	3-4	5s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	65-75
£1 6s. Non-Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	Manchester Pal. of Var. £1 Ord. ..	1-1/4
B.P. Pictures £1 10s. Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	5s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	90-95
Biograph Ths. 10s. "B" Ord. ..	1/6-2/0	Manchester Th. Royal £10 Ord. ..	73-84
Birmingham Th. Royal £1 Ord. ..	3-4	Moss' Empires £5 Ord. ..	3-4
5s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	65-70	£5 Cum. Pref. ..	3-4
Coliseum £1 Ord. ..	3-4	National Elec. Th. 10s. Ord. ..	3-4
£1 6s. Non-Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	Oxford £5 Ord. ..	24-25
5s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	65-100	Palace Theatre 10s. Ord. (9s. pd.) ..	9/16-11/16
Croydon Hip. 6s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	49-51	Piccadilly Cir. Cin. Th. £1 Ord. ..	1-1/4
Empire £1 Ord. (10s. pd.) ..	3-4	Picture Th. Finl. Trust £10 7/4s. ..	10-10 1/4
£1 Ord. (10s. pd.) ..	3-4	Partic. Deb. Bond ..	10-10 1/4
Picture Theatre £1 Ord. ..	3-4	Provl. Cin. Th. £1 Ord. ..	1-1/4
Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ord. ..	24-25	" " £1 7/4s. "A" Pref. ..	1-1/4
Pavilion £1 Ord. ..	24-25	" " £1 7/4s. "A" Pref. ..	1-1/4
Hackney & Shep. Bush £5 Ord. ..	4-4 1/2	Robert Arthur Th. Co. 5s. 1st ..	16/8-17/8
£5 6s. Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	Mort. Debs. ..	72-74
5s. 1st Mort. Debs. ..	65-70	Sheffield & Dis. Cin. Th. 10s. Ord. ..	1-1/4
Howard & Wyndham £5 Ord. ..	4-4 1/2	Th. Royal (Drury Lane) £1 Ord. ..	1-1/4
£5 6s. Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	(10s. pd.) ..	1-1/4
Leicester Pal. Th. £5 Ord. ..	4-4 1/2	United Theatres £5 Ord. ..	24-25
London Pav. £5 Ord. ..	4-4 1/2	£5 6s. Cum. Pref. ..	24-25
£5 6s. Cum. Pref. ..	8-9	Victoria Palace 10s. Ord. ..	1-1/4

MAY 15, 1917.

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SPECIALISING IN THEATRE, MUSIC HALL

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"HELLO! CANADA."

REVUE AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

A fine matinee, remarkable even in these enthusiastic days, for the warmth of feeling it provoked, was held at His Majesty's Theatre last Friday afternoon in aid of the After-Care Scheme for Blind Soldiers and Sailors of St. Dunstan's Hostel. The presence of Queen Alexandra, the magic word "Canada," and the prospect of something specially special in matinee, brought a house packed to the limit, and a total of £2,000 for the most pathetic of all the war heroes, the blinded men.

The profession and talented amateurs mingled happily in the entertainment. Miss Marie Lohr started the afternoon with a stirring recitation, by Helen Serrez, entitled "Canada."

In the revue, which was under the stage direction and management of Mr. E. R. Ricketts, Mr. Nelson Keys, Mr. Frederic Norton, and Mr. Edward Combermere made very merry in a delightfully impromptu manner, and during the interval nobody went as usual to fight for tea in the tea-room because of the spirited bidding that went on, thanks largely to Mr. Norton's cheery auctioneering for original drawings presented for sale by Mr. Louis Raemaekers, Captain Bruce Bairnsfather, and Miss Olive Snell. The Raemaekers fetched £41, the Bairnsfather £225 (after the excitement had risen to fever heat, with Mr. Norton and Mr. Keys "swooning" on the stage), and Miss Olive Snell's charming picture realised twenty-five guineas.

The two most vociferously applauded items in the revue, which was as gay, as inconsequent, and as beautifully "dressed" as the most exacting charity matinee habitué could demand, were "Powder Puff"—a pretty thing, daintily sung and acted by Mrs. D'Oyley Rochford, and a crinolone ditty, "The New Old-Fashioned Girl," sung with sweet demureness by Mrs. Horace Webber. Miss Babs MacPherson's pure and beautiful voice was heard to advantage in two ballads, "I Love You" and "Waiting for You, Dear," dances by Miss Suzanne Sicklemeier, Miss Margaret Bannerman, Mr. Frank Verner, and Miss Maudie Dunsmuir were successful. Mr. W. V. Robinson (of Mont-real), well known in this country, told some of his "Flannigan" stories to the usual accompaniment of laughter.

"A Daughter of Devon," by Florence H. Crossley, will have its first London performance at the Theatre Royal Stratford, on Monday next.

On Monday afternoon, at the Lyceum Theatre, the Messrs. Malville entertained upwards of 3,000 wounded soldiers with "Seven Days' Leave," cigarettes, and refreshments.

NEW MUSIC.

SONGS FROM CRAMER AND CO.

In her setting of "Your Dear Brown Eyes" Margaret Woolmer has caught and fixed the note of tenderness expressed in Edward Tschernacher's words. The ultra-sentimental nature of the song, and its tuneful, singable phrases, mark it out for ballad-concert popularity. "The Yoke," by Herbert J. Brandon and the late H. Lane Wilson, is a pseudo-Somerset song. The words voice the humour of Hodge, and the music pays sincerest flattery to an old friend of our earliest days, "Little Brown Jug." This should be another popular winner if sung by a jovial baritone of the Charles Tree type. "If Thou Dost Care," by Ada Amphlett, breathes the unswerving faith-in-absence atmosphere. The music, simple without being insipid, is pleasantly written. In "None But I," by Jan. L. Lawson and Harold Chevalier, are expressed the aspirations of the lover to be all in all to the beloved. A cynic would put it down as essentially a pre-nuptial ditty. The music's phrases have an arid quality that rather fails to convey the fervour of the words. "One Little Hour," arranged as a duet for soprano and baritone or contralto, with words by Leslie Cooke and music by Evelyn Sharpe, bears the burden of the uncalculating enthusiasm of a first—and a very early—love. Maturer reflection would hardly endorse the desire for "one golden hour" in exchange for "that eternal pain." The music is tuneful and the harmonies pleasant. For a bass or a baritone with good deep tones may be recommended "Alone on the Deep," words by J. R. Hogg, music by W. H. Jude. It treats of the story of Christ's walking on the water. The music is effectively and dramatically written, although the six-eight time gives the sense of dancing rather than walking.

"Baby Language" and ingenious sentiments distinguish the lyrics, by K. M. Arnoldson, a cycle of five songs gathered under the title of "The Charm of a Child." Probably they are meant to be sung by children, but they would better suit a grown-up with a turn for child imitation. Claude Arundale's settings are expressive, and appropriately couched in simple style. By the same favourite composer is a delightful little piece for pianoforte—quite easy—called "Butterflies," that most happily suggests the fluttering of gauzy wings.

ALFRED PHILLIPS, LTD.

From this firm comes a sort of semi-Irish "mother song," "Man o' Mine." The words, by Margaret Carier, quite English except for a spasmodic "och sure" or two, tell of the sorrow of the bereaved wife, and the consolation brought to the mother by a wee replica of the man she has lost. There is genuine feeling in the music.

THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS

We much regret to announce the death in action of Capt. E. W. Coulson-Mayne, only child of Eric and Nellie Mayne (Ellen Snow). He passed for Sandhurst in 1914, was gazetted to the Bedfordshire Regiment, and twice wounded in 1915. During convalescence he was recruiting officer at Shoreditch for six months. Transferred to the Durham Light Infantry, he returned to France in October, 1916, and received his death wounds leading his men into action, and died on April 26. His colonel writes:—"He earned the respect and admiration of all ranks as a soldier, and as a true and gallant English gentleman he will always be remembered by those who had the privilege of knowing him."

His many friends will learn with regret of the death of 2nd Lieut. Charles J. Sandford, of the 1/8-Middlesex, who was killed in action on Sunday, May 6. Mr. Sandford left the "Glad Eye" company to join up early in the war. For a considerable time previously he had been associated with Mr. Geo. Dance in "The Whip." Mr. Sandford, who was only 44 years old at the time of his death, married in 1914 Miss Margaret Fane, at present touring "The War Case," to whom our sincere sympathies are extended.

Several professional artists are included in the photo of the Black and White Concert Party performing somewhere in France. At the end of the first row is Mauritius, the Handcuff King; first in the same row is Corpl. Sharpe, late accom-



panist to the Frolics; and first of those seated is Pte. Bracey, formerly of Adelaide and Saitons.

Mr. Charles Roake, the well-known scenery contractor, of St. George's-road, Peckham, has six sons, who are at present serving their King and country. The eldest (Albert) is in the 3rd Royal West Surrey Regt., the second (Sydney) has been over two years in France with the Royal Engineers, the third (Walter) is on the armed liner "Virginia," the fourth (Frederick) is with the Naval Brigade; the fifth (Charles), who is in the King's Royal Rifles, has been wounded and is at present at Havre; whilst the sixth (George), who is now in the Royal Field Artillery, previously saw two years' service in the Navy, and was under Admiral Jellicoe in the great manoeuvres in the North of Scotland.

Mr. J. P. Millane, the actor-manager, whose stock seasons at Oldham theatres have enjoyed so much popularity, was an appellant before the Oldham Tribunal at their sitting in the Town Hall on Wednesday. Mr. Millane said that when the Derby scheme came into operation he insisted that every eligible man in his companies should attest. At the time of attestation he had five companies "on the road." In the result Mr. Millane was ordered to serve on May 14.

To our record of actors who have fallen in action is to be added the name of Philip Groom, aged 26, who died of wounds at a base hospital near Boulogne on Friday, May 4. Mr. Groom had been ballet master for Miss Italia Conti for six years, and assisted that distinguished teacher of dancing in the original production of "Where the Rainbow Ends"; he also danced with Dorothy Moody for a season at Drury Lane. Although not fitted to be a soldier by temperament or inclination, he joined up in September, 1915. He was badly wounded in the thigh on Easter Monday last, and lay in the snow in No Man's Land for twelve hours, and was shot at twice by the Germans while he was lying there helpless. He died at the base hospital ten days later. A brother of Mr. Groom's, also an actor, is now serving as a second lieutenant in the 9th Yorks.

News has just been received of the death of Arthur Russell-Davis, Second Lieut., H.A.C., who fell in action on March 31. He was the junior partner of the Alick Chumley and A. Russell-Davis Companies. To his bereaved mother we offer our deepest sympathy.

The name of Captain Leopold Profeit, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, has appeared in the officers' casualties list. He was a well-known member of the late James Welch's company, and played parts in "The New Clown" and "When Knights Were Bold."

The deaths are reported of Sergt. Gene Wade, R.H.A., and of Martin Romaine, both killed in action somewhere in France. Gene Wade and Miss Maudie Evans were, previous to the war, partners in a dancing act. Martin Romaine was formerly of Terrier and Romaine.

Captain John Foster, of the South Staffords, second son of Mr. and Mrs. John Foster, of Hillside, Wednesbury, formerly with Sir Frank Benson's company, was killed in action on the 23rd ult. He enlisted with other old boys of Queen Mary's School, Walsall, soon after the outbreak of war.

The "trumpet's martial sound," quoting a line familiar in one of the operas of their repertoire, has been heard to some purpose by the members of the D'Oyley Carte Company, no fewer than eighteen being enrolled in our fighting forces. The head of the concern, Mr.

Rupert D'Oyley Carte, is a sub-lieutenant in the R.N.V.R. Two members have obtained commissions. Mr. Leicester Tunks is a lieutenant in the R.F.C. and Mr. F. Steward is a lieutenant in the North and Derby Regiment. A number of the others have the rank of sergeant.

That distinguished member of the combination, Mr. H. A. Lytton, has two sons serving, one in the Flying Corps and the other in the Royal Irish, in which he won a commission. Notwithstanding these heavy demands upon its forces, the performances of the various works have proceeded without interruption. The management have called in to their assistance soldiers who are no longer fit for fighting service, but who have vocal talents to fit them for places in the company. Amongst them are Mr. Hugh Ormond, who was wounded whilst serving in a Highland division of the R.F.A., and has been discharged as medically unfit, and Mr. Charles Jenkins, belonging to the London Regiment, who received several wounds in action.

"CARRY ON." Revue, by R. Guy Reeve and Elsa, Music by Dudley Powell and Others, Produced at the New Middlesex on Monday, May 14.

The first scene of "Carry On," presented by Messrs. Fred W. Warden and Fred Willmott, is in the "Daily Place" office with the editor on the look-out for a scoop. To achieve this he steals from himself some valuable bonds, and engages a spoof detective to recover them. Add to this an American heiress, who finally marries the



editor, and you have the plot. The scenery, by Jas. Hicks, is effective; the dresses, by A. Dubens and Elkan Bros., pretty; and the music tuneful throughout.

Miss Renee Reel is delightful as the American heiress. Her songs, "The Upper Ten" and "Fairland" (an excellent number), were well sung; but Miss Reel scored chiefly, perhaps, in a conversational song between a Tommy and a French girl. Her dancing, too, is clever and graceful, and throughout she scores a decided success. The comedy is chiefly in the hands of Harry Angers, who as the detective proves himself a most resourceful fun-maker. Lowe and Loman also contribute valuably to the comedy side of the show, their speciality in scene 2 being loudly applauded. Mr. Donald Mackay played well as the Editor; and Mr. Bert Escotti scored as the Censor, particularly in the song bearing that title. The Misses Lillian Errol, Margaret Blanche, and Lola Kaine in small parts did all they had to do well; their sitting in the Town Hall on Wednesday. Mr. Millane said that when the Derby scheme came into operation he insisted that every eligible man in his companies should attest. At the time of attestation he had five companies "on the road." In the result Mr. Millane was ordered to serve on May 14.

To our record of actors who have fallen in action is to be added the name of Philip Groom, aged 26, who died of wounds at a base hospital near Boulogne on Friday, May 4. Mr. Groom had been ballet master for Miss Italia Conti for six years, and assisted that distinguished teacher of dancing in the original production of "Where the Rainbow Ends"; he also danced with Dorothy Moody for a season at Drury Lane. Although not fitted to be a soldier by temperament or inclination, he joined up in September, 1915. He was badly wounded in the thigh on Easter Monday last, and lay in the snow in No Man's Land for twelve hours, and was shot at twice by the Germans while he was lying there helpless. He died at the base hospital ten days later. A brother of Mr. Groom's, also an actor, is now serving as a second lieutenant in the 9th Yorks.

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The "trumpet's martial sound," quoting a line familiar in one of the operas of their repertoire, has been heard to some purpose by the members of the D'Oyley Carte Company, no fewer than eighteen being enrolled in our fighting forces. The head of the concern, Mr.

MELODYLAND.

B. Feldman and Co. The new musical sketch in which Miss Edrie Coombe and Jack Thompson figure so conspicuously at the Oxford this week is a brilliant success. Quite the most noteworthy part was the splendid singing of "My Little Cottage Home in Killarney," a number of rich musical and lyrical value, and "For You are Just the Only One for Me," a dainty love song, which is admirably worked in duet form.

The new Food Economy song is getting an exceptionally fine send-off this week, artists at all the principal halls featuring it with great success. "Save! Save! Save!" will do much to assist the Food Controller to advertise the real position of affairs.

Miss Bessie Clifford continues her good work with "I'm on My Way to Dixieland," "In Binky Winky Chinky Chinatown," and "In Honolulu." The last-named is in exceptional favour since Miss Clifford first introduced it.

Rene Ralph made a distinct hit at the Victoria Palace last week with "How's Every Little Thing in Dixie?" a number which she works exceptionally well.

Star Music Co. Reports from various parts of the country continue to arrive telling of the great success of the new comedy chorus song, "There's a Girl for Every Soldier," and this coming pierrot season it will assuredly be the holiday-makers' chorus number. The original singer of the song in revue is Mildred Franklin, of Hayman and Franklin, who first introduced it in "Fads and Fancies," with the greatest possible success. Among recent singers is Josie Leyton, who produced it for the first time at the Hippodrome, Gloucester, last week, where it was received with extraordinary enthusiasm. This week Miss Leyton is repeating her Gloucester success at Chelmsford, and she intends featuring it when she comes to town, fulfilling twelve weeks' engagement round the London and suburban halls.

"Three calls and thrice in front of the tabs every night," is how Victor Lodge and Tom Joyce describe the effect of "Ting-Ting-Tra-La-La" and "You Remember a Place Called Home," on the patrons of the Theatre Royal, Dublin, last week. So successful have these two numbers proved that this clever duo of vocalists have decided, by the introduction of "Girl of Mine," to make their act an "all-star" one. They will produce this third Star number during the week.

Two of the most successful song-numbers in Jackson Owen's revue, "Some Girls," which is the attraction at the Islington Empire this week, are "When Sandy McKie comes back to Inverary," spiritedly sung by Vena Velma with special bagpipe effects, and "Oh! You Cuddlesome Girl," rendered as a duet by Hervay Bruce and Mabel Hurst.

Kitty Avey, the dainty comedienne, who comes for two months to London on June 4, prior to opening in revue in August, is this week at the Hippodrome, Peterborough, her principal number being "I Want My Percy." Miss Avey gets a deal of comedy of the "mock demure" sort out of this song, which she finds a favourite everywhere.

At the Pier Pavilion, Plymouth, Clara Cooper, the contralto soprano, has established herself as a big favourite with two Star numbers, "I Rather Like It," and the inevitable "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty."

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VARIETY NOTES.

Those Four Kids are doing exceedingly well this week—their second—at the Oxford. They are also working the Weston, and it is difficult to say which hall likes them most. They get good receptions always for their bright little singing and dancing act. Special mention should be made of the clever dancing at the piano by the little girl pianist.

Sharp's Tromboneers. Mr. Harry Sharp, the well-known proprietor of the above act, has joined the Army, and has left the show in the business hands of Charles Gibbs, the musical arrangements being in the charge of Hadyr Lister, the clever soloist of the act now for some years.

Niblo and Doris, who have had their engagement at the Oxford prolonged, have been booked to feature at the Alhambra, Paris, in July. Queenie Essex, that captivating and talented comedienne, is playing a short season of variety dates in her well-known single turn. Miss Essex returns to take up her part as leading lady in Harry Day's revue, "Fall In," on May 23, opening at Swindon.

Estelle Rose has produced a new number with conspicuous success on the L. T. V. tour. It is entitled "Antonio, Macaronio," and Miss Rose wishes us to state that this number is her sole copyright.

Mullaney Bros. The Mullaney Bros., who appeared at Shepherd's Bush with great success last week, landed here from Australia about three months ago, and are fast becoming popular with their singing and dancing act. One of the brothers is getting married this week. Congratulations.

May Moore Duprez is singing a new Dutch number, entitled "Hands Across the Sea," written by Livingstone and Fitzpatrick, with big success this week at the Palladium.

MUSIC FOR REVIEW.

"The Light that Leads Me Home," "Love, Come from Your Hiding Place," "Had I but Known," "A Dream of Delight," "Here's a Ship That's Bound for Blighty," "When God Gave You to Me," from the Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Mr. J. L. Davies, the well-known theatrical and vaudeville agent, has entered into a working arrangement with Paul Murray and T. F. Dawe, Ltd., and will in future be located at this firm's offices at No. 5, Lisle-street, Leicester-square.

Charles Hannan's play, "A Cigarette-maker's Romance," has been secured for stock performances by Mr. Watson Mill at Keighley the week before Whitsun, and Leeds during Whit week. Mr. Hannan's play is also being given this week by Mr. George S. King's Plymouth Repertory Company.

Under the failure re Frank John Wingate, 44, Piccadilly-circus, lately residing at Manor-gardens, Larkhall Rise, Clapham, author and theatrical manager, the debtor has filed a statement of affairs showing gross liabilities amounting to £277 15s. 3d., of which £37 15s. 3d. is due to unsecured creditors, £400 to fully secured creditors, the value of the security being returned at the same amount. The assets consist of one bad debt for £9, estimated to be of no value, thus leaving a deficiency of £377 15s. 3d. The debtor alleges his failure to have been caused through litigation, and law costs of two actions.

FORD AND TRULY

(CHUMS IN VARIETY).

SOME COMEDY.

SOME NOVELTY.

ONLY ACT OF ITS KIND.

Monday Next,

PALLADIUM, SOUTHPORT.

For dates, write or wire—

GEORGE BARCLAY.

CONN. KENNA KENNA BROS.

THE FUNNY ARMEN.

THIS WEEK:

VICTORIA PALACE

DON'T

MUCK

ABOUT!!

VACANT JUNE 4-11.



Photo by F. Bustin.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Joint Committee of Entertainments.
A reconstruction has taken place of the Joint Committee of Entertainments Industries, which has been meeting at St. Ermin's in the interests of National Service, and it now consists of two sections, comprising nine employers and nine representatives of employees. Theatrical managers have three representatives, music hall managers three, the Actors' Association one, the Variety Artists' Federation one, the National Association of Theatrical Employees three, the Amalgamated Musicians Union four, and the cinema trade three.

The Actors' Association is represented on the new committee by Mr. Sydney Valentine, who replaces Mr. H. B. Irving. A special meeting of the council was convened on Monday for the purpose of appointing Mr. Valentine.

That Tax.
As might be expected, the threatened increase in tax upon theatrical and other entertainments continues to give grounds for great uneasiness, and the chief reason for this uneasiness is the uncertainty of the irritating matter. At present the Powers that Be still announce that the new tax will come into operation "some time in July."

The many managers concerned tell me that if there is a time when any such increase is fatal to theatrical and variety enterprise—and obviously also of less use to the Government—it is the summer season. After several conclaves the various managerial associations decided to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer to meet a deputation, which would show that Right Hon. financier good cause why he should benevolently postpone the starting of the increased tax until the autumn—say October.

Whether His Chancellorship will consent to receive this proposed deputation, and if so when, doth not appear yet to be decided. All my enquiries among managers and their associations up to late last night elicited the same answer, namely, "The only reply we have received from the Chancellor up to now is one from his secretary stating that 'the matter shall have immediate attention.'"

Sir Herbert Tree.
At the close of his four weeks' season at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, Sir Herbert Tree delivered a short speech of farewell. He said that he hoped shortly to be able to cross to England bearing a message of goodwill from America. "It is a fine record for history," he added, "that all English-speaking races are banded together to fight for the highest cause—Peace, and the divine right of democracy. England cheers the democratic President, while America cheers the democratic King."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Sir Herbert at a luncheon given by the American Pilgrims to wish him bon voyage on his return to England. In an eloquent speech Mr. Chancery Peppew spoke of the value of visits of artists from the English stage to the United States, not only from the standpoint of the drama and literature, but as in the case of Irving, Forbes-Robertson, and Tree, of cementing the good feeling between the English-speaking peoples.

The Savoy Future.
Mr. H. B. Irving will revive, at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday evening next, "The Bells" and "The Story of Waterloo." The programme will be given for a limited number of performances, pending the production of a new play by Mr. H. A. Vachell.

A New American Thriller.
Inside the Lines is the title of a comedy-drama which Mr. Bernard Hinshelwood is producing at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, and which is the nearest future. The play is from the pen of Mr. Earl Derr Biggers, author of the story on which the play "Seven Keys to Baldpate" was founded. The story opens at Gibraltar, and begins about ten days after the outbreak of the war. In the cast will be included Miss Grace Lane, Mr. Frederick Ross, and Mr. Edward Dagnall.

Mme. Bernhardt's Illness.
Mme. Sarah Bernhardt's doctors report that the famous actress's exceptional pluck and vitality are pulling her through. Mr. Viviani paid her a visit in hospital. She sat up in bed, and he kissed her hand in greeting. He told her France was going to recover, even as she herself was to recover.

New Revue at the Garrick.
At the Garrick Theatre early in June Mr. Albert de Courville will, by arrangement with Mr. Joe G. Levy, produce a new revue, after it has had a short trial trip in the provinces. "The management hopes," says Mr. de Courville, "that the expense of the production will be commensurate with the eventual receipts, but, at the same time, some striking novelty effects may be looked for."

A Successful Substitute.
Miss Beatrice Wilson appeared as "Cynisca" in place of Lady Tree at the Coliseum on Tuesday, in "Pygmalion and Galatea," and had a great reception. Miss Wilson has been engaged by Moss Empires to play this part, with Miss Mary Anderson, on her flying matinee tour, and also at Liverpool.

New York's Famous First-nighter.
News has reached me of the death of Mr. James Brady, known all over America as "Diamond Jim," and famous also as a "first-nighter." He was a great friend of Charles Frohman. He always had the centre seat in the front row of the orchestra stalls, where he would sit resplendent in jewels, and his judgment of a play was rarely known to fail.

A "Harry Lander" Matinée.
St. Dunstan's Hostel is to benefit by a special "Harry Lander" matinee, which will be given on May 24 at the Shaftesbury, when all those taking part in "Three Cheers" and the members of the orchestra will give their services. The boxes are to be sold by special arrangement, but all other seats will be obtainable at ordinary prices at the theatre or the libraries.

The New Actress-Manager.
Miss Gladys Cooper made an extremely rapid recovery from her operation, and, besides rehearsing her part in "Wanted, a Husband" in record time, dealt with nearly 700 letters of congratulation from unknown admirers, in addition to hundreds from personal friends, and acknowledged the receipt of over fifty offers of charms and mementoes. These ranged from the magic brooch she wore on the opening night to the hair of a sacred elephant's tail.

Martin Harvey Tour Extended.
To-morrow (Thursday) Mr. Martin Harvey is due at the Exeter Royal. Next week will be spent at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, and the tour is to be still further extended, consequent upon the brilliant success, to Malvern, Worcester, and Leamington.

Mrs. Martin Harvey's Red Cross appeals within the last few days have been at Cheltenham and Oxford. At the first named £36 resulted, whilst Oxford players contributed £30.

A Theatrical Expert.
Mr. Herbert Blackmore, who is resigning the position of secretary to the Theatrical Managers' Association on account of pressure of other work, is, of course, the head of the old-established firm of theatrical agents upon whose books the names of many of the most famous artists of their day have appeared since the firm started in 1867.

Mr. Blackmore has been associated with the Theatrical Managers' Association since its foundation twenty-three years ago. Previously he acted with his brother as registrar of the Provincial Theatrical Managers' Association, a society which served the purpose of a sort of clearing house for the various bookings. The T.M.A., it will be remembered, was founded in 1894 by Henry Irving, who became its first president, and remained so till his lamented death. He was succeeded by Sir Herbert Tree, and then by Mr. Cyril Maude, who on his departure for America, gave place to Mr. Tom B. Davis.

The Theatrical Managers' Association has had many problems to face in the course of its career, especially during the past year, during which thirty meetings were held. Mr. Blackmore has a good claim to be considered the busiest man in London. He has one pastime, he tells me, and that is "seeing managers."

New London Manager.
The latest recruit to the ranks of West End managers is Mr. Bromley Challenor, who concludes his present tour of "When



MR. BROMLEY CHALLENGER

Knights Were Bold" at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, in Whit week, and will do a short provincial tour commencing early in July, preparatory to his West End revival of this famous farce.

The Musical "Magistrate."
Another verification of a previous "Era" article of yours truly is that Alfred Butt, who has just decided that his next Adelphi production, whenever successful, will be "High Jinks," will be Fred Thompson's musical version of Sir Arthur Pinero's famous farce, "The Magistrate."

The "Vic." Commonwealth.
The members of the "Vic." Repertory Company have decided to continue on a Commonwealth basis, and will inaugurate their season on Thursday evening, May 24, with "Oliver Twist," which will be followed by other popular plays, including "Sherlock Holmes," "Caste," "David Garrick," and "Barnaby Rudge." The company is under the direction of Ben Greet, who is also the producer. The stage management is in the hands of Mr. E. A. Ross and Miss Mafie Whiteman, and the secretary and treasurer is Mr. Mark Stanley.

A New Shaftesbury Favourite.
Miss Ethel Levy gave up her part in "Three Cheers" at the Shaftesbury on Saturday in deference to engagements previously made. She has been succeeded by Miss Flora Cromer, who acquitted herself excellently, and was heartily congratulated.

Actress's Gifts to Volunteers.
Miss Winnie Melville, who made a successful appearance in "Bobby," the new revue at the Comedy Theatre, presented two new ambulances to the County of Middlesex Transport Volunteer Corps at a drumhead service held at the Downhills Recreation Ground, West Green.

Is Comic Opera Worth Reviving?
Mr. J. M. Glover will discourse on the question "Is Comic Opera worth reviving?" to the members and friends of the O.P. Club on Sunday evening next at 6.30 p.m. at the Royal Adelaide Rooms, Gatti's Restaurant. Mlle. Yvonne Granville will preside.

Jewish Actors' Union.
A movement to establish an Association for Jewish actors on the lines of the Actors' Church Union has been started by the Rev. A. Mishcon, of the Brixton Synagogue. There will be no membership fee, the only qualifications being that members must be employed in the entertainment world in some capacity—either before or behind the curtain—and that they must be of the Jewish faith.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS TAX.

DEPUTATION TO THE TREASURY.

As a result of the efforts of the Provincial Entertainments Proprietors and Managers' Association the Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, M.P., will receive a deputation from the Association to-day (Wednesday) at 12 noon. The deputation will endeavour to secure a modification of the new duties and their postponement until the expiration of summer time. The deputation consists of Mr. Percy B. Broadhead (chairman), Mr. Ernest Dottridge (Liverpool), Mr. J. F. Elliston (Bolton), Mr. B. P. Lawton (Sheffield), Mr. Robert Barker (Blackpool Tower), Mr. A. E. White (Palace, Manchester), Mr. H. B. Moraff (accountant to the Association), Mr. J. Harrison (chairman of the North Country Districts Kinematograph Association), Mr. Dennis Clarke (Birkenhead), and Mr. P. Percival (secretary of the Association).

TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.
The proposed increase in theatre taxation was considered at a meeting of the Touring Managers' Association, held on Friday at the Savoy Theatre, by kind permission of Mr. H. B. Irving. After full discussion the secretary was instructed to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer a letter to the effect that:

"From an intimate knowledge of the general conditions throughout the country, the committee feel that, the public now being accustomed to the present rate of tax, a further increase in the tax on the cheaper prices is likely to cause a great irritation among the working classes who support the popular parts of the theatre. The committee would be glad to know if you could make it convenient to receive a deputation from this association, which represents the theatrical touring managers of the United Kingdom."

MR. WALTER DE FRECE'S VIEWS.
A serious view of the effect of the new duties is taken by Mr. Walter de Frece, the managing director of the Variety Theatres Controlling Co. "Like many of my brother managers," said Mr. de Frece, "I am rather afraid that the increased taxation on amusements will very seriously injure the stage industry, especially in the variety line. I base my views on the fact that the present and unincreased tax seriously affected the returns at most of the places I am concerned with, and that the time for starting the increased tax comes, as I understand, at the very worst part of the year for our business—that is, in July. During the summer it is always a question whether it is wiser to close down than remain open. With the extra tax I feel sure that for many managers this summer there will be nothing but closure. I am hoping that the Chancellor will consent to receive a deputation of us managers, with at least a view to postponing the extra tax till the autumn. That would be a welcome concession, but, of course, we would rather that he might be able to convince the Chancellor that the increased tax will not profit the Government, as it must inflict such loss upon the industry as a whole."

Manchester as a Musical Centre.
Sir Thomas Beecham, speaking at the close of a memorable performance of "I Told You So" at Birmingham, testified to the advance in the public interest taken in the operatic season. He added: "If I may take the success of this season as a criterion of continued public interest in opera in Manchester, I am able to say that from this night the city begins to occupy a position in the operatic history of this country that no other town has occupied up to the present time."

"His Wife's Husband."
Miss Ruth Zillwood informs me that she has completed a new domestic drama, entitled "His Wife's Husband." It will be produced on an elaborate scale by Mr. Fred Osmond on August Bank Holiday, and a tour of the first-class towns is being booked. Mr. Osmond is also touring, in conjunction with Will H. Glaze, "The Favourite Son," by the same author.

A Diplomat Who Loved the Drama.
I am grieved to learn, at the moment of going to press, of the sudden death of America's great Ambassador, Mr. Joseph C. Choate. It was my privilege to know that brilliant diplomat and humorist personally during his period of office in England. That great and lovable man often honoured me (a Britisher) by asking me to sit with him for a long chat to compare our respective views of that which we both loved—that which he always called "the British drama."

Wounded at Birkenhead Theatre.
Fully 1,200 wounded soldiers, on Wednesday afternoon at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, gave a very hearty welcome to Mr. Fred Osmond's company in the drama, "What Every Girl Can Do." At the close of the performance Councillor W. W. Kelly moved a vote of thanks to the company who had so kindly given their services. He also said he wished to thank his orchestra, who came every Wednesday to these special matinees. The vote of thanks was responded to in the usual manner by the soldiers, and acknowledged by Mr. Fred Osmond and Miss Mabel Scudamore.

The Late Mr. Comyns Carr's Estate.
The estate of the late Mr. Joseph William Comyns Carr, of 6, Canning-place, W., journalist, art critic, dramatist, and theatrical manager, who died on Dec. 12 last at the age of 67, has been valued at £4,266 5s. 9d. Mrs. Alice L. V. Comyns Carr, his widow, and Mr. Arthur S. Comyns Carr, of The Temple, barrister-at-law, his son, are the executors.

Nurses and Entertainment Tax.
In the House of Commons yesterday, in reply to Mr. Macmaster, who asked if the exemption allowed to wounded soldiers in regard to the Entertainment Tax would be extended to nurses accompanying them, Mr. Bonar Law stated that provision on this point would be made in the Finance Bill.

Miss Mathison's Recital.
The ballroom at the Ritz-Carlton, Montreal, was crowded on the occasion of a recital given by Miss Edith Wynne Mathison. According to Mr. Morgan-Powell, she "possesses the power to illumine poetry and prose alike by the light of a keen intelligence, profound feeling, and a wide range of emotional expression."

TELLING STATISTICS.

"During the last few days I have been attending my company's final financial meetings of the year. I find that during the last twelve months in every instance the receipts are 'down.' In most cases they are 'down' as much as 50 per cent. Some may say, and I agree, that this reduction in receipts may not be solely due to the Entertainment Tax. But here is a strange coincidence, taking two of our theatres for example—one in the North, the other in the Midlands. In the former case our receipts decreased £4,785, and this was within £23 of the exact amount we had paid there for tax. At the Midland house the receipts were down £2,500, and this is the exact amount we paid there for the tax. "In every direction our expenses are increasing by leaps and bounds. Labour, lighting, rates—everything is costing more. And, of course, with the extra tax we can only conclude that there are serious times ahead for all entertainments."

At a meeting of the Critics' Circle last week a resolution in favour of exemption for journalists in the exercise of their profession was adopted. The subject is further discussed in a symposium contributed to by theatrical managers and well-known journalists or our Leader page.

"DEADHEADS."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."
Sir,—The contemplated tax on the "genuine Deadhead" will be, in my opinion, a financial loss to resident and touring managers alike, now that printing and pictorial posting displays are practically "no show." For many years there has been a great waste of the pictorial matter required by managers in their ambition to kill opposition and paint the town red with big expensive splashes. Shop and window displays must now take the place of large "protected" hoardings, often slightly and cramped by all sorts of commercial matter.

A neat D.C. litho (complying with the new Act), exhibited in a clean shop window in the main street, is often, in my opinion (with 30 years' experience), much more effective, and certainly more attractive, than a 24 D.C. sheet poster carelessly displayed by an incompetent employee, and then immediately defaced by destructive children to such an extent that it fails in its original "drawing" purpose "to stop the man in the street." The genuine "Deadhead" I mention is now (more so than heretofore) a necessity to successful theatrical management, providing that he or she has secured their "brief" in return for a good shop or window display entitling them to the privilege of a seat; and I fear that my brother working agents and bill inspectors will have to rehearse new tales before they can command a big window flash in hotels, saloons, cafes, and places of public resort, managed by the much-despised "Deadheads," as he thinks he is already sufficiently taxed.—Yours faithfully, MICHAEL J. ROONEY, "The Front Man."

An All-Star Revue.
Mr. John Hastings Turner has written an "all star" revue, entitled "An Empty House," to be produced at His Majesty's Theatre at a matinee on Friday next, in aid of the Women's League of Service. The programme will include a scene from "Chu Chin Chow," and among the many well-known artists who have volunteered their services are Violet Loraine, Madge Titheradge, Mabel Russell, Leslie Hanson, Gerald du Maurier, and George F. Royce. Mr. Kendal has also promised to say a few words concerning the League.

The Pavilion Theatre, E.
The Pavilion Theatre, Mile End-road, which for the past three years has been devoted to Yiddish plays, is again to be applied to the uses of English drama. The theatre will be closed at the end of the month for entire repupolstering, decoration &c., and will reopen on August Bank Holiday. The bookings are in the hands of Mr. J. Bannister Howard.

"The Jew" in the East.
Owing to its success at the Strand Theatre charity matinee, Cumberland's "The Jew" will be staged for a week at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End. Mr. Teitelbaum, who will again sustain the principal rôle, will also be seen in a new one-act play.

Ibsen at the St. Martin's.
Mr. Sydney Valentine and Mr. Fisher White will be included in the cast of Ibsen's "Rosmersholm," at the series of Tuesday and Friday matinees which Mr. James B. Fagan is giving at the St. Martin's. A start will be made on Tuesday, May 29.

The Criterion's Future.
No change is contemplated in regard to the management of the Criterion Theatre, which, together with the restaurant, has been purchased on behalf of a syndicate of London men by Mr. C. E. Cotter, solicitor. The lease of the theatre will remain in the hands of Sir Charles Wyndham, with whose name and fame it is so closely associated.

A Strange Playname.
"Chilly Billy" is the name of a new musical play, written and composed respectively by Messrs. Douglas Furber and Emmett Adams, both of whom have done such fine work in the Ambassadors' revues. I want to impress this peculiar playname upon you because a certain journalist the other day was misinterpreted, caused to give the title as "Chilly Billy!"

Septuagenarian Actor-Knights.
Heartly congratulations to Sir Squire Bancroft, who was seventy-six on Monday, and to Sir John Hare, who is seventy-three to-day.

Burnand's Happy Thought.
One of the legacies left by the late Sir Francis Burnand is the convenient little pocket for railway tickets which forms an ordinary feature of our coats. The sixth chapter of "Happy Thoughts" contains an amusing description of a hunt in various pockets for an elusive ticket, followed by the "Happy Thought: To have a separate pocket for tickets." There have been many changes in the cut of one's coat, but the ticket for remains through all.

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"A PAIR."
By Henry Seton and Randal Roberts, at a matinee at the Ambassadors Theatre yesterday afternoon, organised by Lady Tenterden and Miss Esme Beringer, a new play was produced with the following cast:—
Gilbert Forrester... Mr. Stanley Logan
Elizabeth Forrester... Miss Esme Beringer
Bassett... Mr. Lennox Pawle
Mills... Miss Drusilla Wiles
A married couple, passing as devoted to one another, are backmasked by the head waiter of a smart restaurant, who has known each of them as frequenters of Room No. 13, but in the company of someone else. After successfully rooking them in turn he presents them each with one of a pair of vases from the mantelpiece of Room 13, as a souvenir. The couple have forgotten that it is the ninth anniversary of their wedding day until reminded by the embarrassing gifts of an affectionate and giggling parlourmaid. Gilbert and Elizabeth decide to present the other with a vase. Result, consternation, as with many protestations of affection each receives one of the well-remembered vases from the other. The little piece is smartly written, has some good lines, and is without a touch of offensiveness, in spite of its subject, which is treated lightly and deftly. Mr. Stanley Logan and Miss Esme Beringer played with precisely the right gaiety demanded, and Mr. Lennox Pawle made the blackmaster a most pleasant old repro-bate. As the giggling Mills, Miss Drusilla Wiles caused great amusement. Others contributing to the programme were Miss Vera Beringer, Miss Olive Foxe, Lyndal, Miss Constance Drever, Lady Tree, Mr. Joseph Chetnam, Miss Gwendoline Brod-den, Mr. Albert Whelan, Princess Iwa, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Mary Clare, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Mr. Nesbo Keys.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.
On Monday, May 14, the comedy entitled "CASTLE."
Mr. Alfred Wareing's strong company supporting Mr. Albert Chevalier as Old Eccles in "Castle" is the attraction at the Kennington Theatre this week. A great personal triumph is achieved by Mr. Albert Chevalier, whose portraiture of Eccles is a masterpiece of character acting and miming. Mr. Frederick Sargent, who looks and acts the part of Hon. George D'Alroy in lifelike manner. Mr. Clive Woods is excellent as Captain Hawtree, and Mr. Harry Brett is well suited as Sam Gerridge. Miss Kathleen Bontall is conspicuous for a fine and consistent performance as Polly Eccles, and Miss Valerie Wyngate and Miss Marion Fawcett do good work as Esther Eccles and the Marquise de St. Maur respectively.

Miss Margery Hast, the daughter of the well-known theatrical and variety agent, Mr. Walter Hast, will make her debut on the theatrical stage on Monday evening, May 21, at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, in a new American comedy, entitled "Strings." Miss Hast, who is said to be the youngest ingenue on the English stage, has made quite a name for herself in America on the screen.
The Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, was the scene of great activity last week, and with three performances by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry, two by the Canadian Folies, and five of "Damaged Goods," it must beat the record week of the theatre for receipts.
The winner of the prize competition lately arranged by the School for Dramatists is Mr. John Peterson, who has written a play with "an atmosphere of mysticism." The announcement of the result would have been made sooner had not the principal of the school, Miss Agnes Platt, had to undergo an operation.
The brief run of "Good News" at the Prince's Theatre finished on Saturday evening, although the reception of the play by the first night's audience was of a most favourable character, and Mr. Seymour Hicks himself gave a most amusing sketch of Valentin, who, on the eve of marriage, loses his bride. If the piece had been of a wholly farcical character it would probably have stood a better chance of success. It is Mr. Hicks's intention shortly to start a tour of the larger provincial towns with "The Catch of the Season," taking with him his London company. Early in the autumn he returns to the Prince's, and will stage Mr. Walter Hackett's new play, "The Freedom of the Seas."

DREAM BOAT.

A CHARMING BALLAD

BY

IVOR NOVELLO,

Composer of

TILL THE BOYS COME HOME

(KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING).

Try the Chorus over.

REFRAIN.

Dream - Boat, where are you float - ing?

Dream - Boat, where are you float - ing? Dear me, to where my

Lov - er will hold me - co - ver in his arms

Dream - Boat, where are you float - ing? Dear me, to where my

Lov - er will hold me - co - ver in his arms

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Telephone, Museum 1671.

"VISIONS."

Musical Melange, in Three Scores, Written and Composed by Mr. Chas. Levy, Produced at the Coliseum, Goolie, Monday, May 7.

The opening scene of "Visions" represents Harry Blake's doll shop (evening). Blake has a craze for having a wax model made of everything that takes his fancy, even going so far as to order a figure of himself. Two of the figures he prizes more than the rest. One is Margaret (a model of his sister), and the other "Idi" (a model of a French maiden whom he has previously met in Paris). Having heard that there is likely to be a raid on the premises by burglars, Blake promises his servant (Pickles) a monetary reward if he will guard the place for the night. Pickles, in order to prepare himself for the ordeal of being left alone, indulges in strong liquor, and, falling asleep, dreams that his master's dolls come to life, and that Margaret suggesting to the others that they carry him off to Tokio for a trip.

The scene subsequently changes, and we see Pickles having a high old time with the Japanese maidens. He also discovers that his master is also in Tokio, and is making love to Idi. In the last scene he, of course, has a rude awakening, Blake arriving at the shop to find Pickles snoring in his chair.

Miss Queenie Craze as Idi scored an immediate success, her singing and dancing being greatly appreciated, whilst Miss Ivy Lynn as Margaret captivated the audience with her rich contralto voice. As Harry Blake Mr. Tudor Williams deserves much praise, his tenor voice being heard to great advantage in the duets with Idi. On the shoulders of Mr. Tom Fancourt, as Pickles, falls the greater part of the work, and his humour throughout is irresistible. Special mention should be made of the chorus, which is under the direction of Mr. Frederick Hendries.

The music throughout is bright and tuneful, whilst the dresses and mounting are good. The whole production is under the personal supervision of Mr. Chas. Levy, who is responsible for some speciality turns. The piece was accorded a hearty reception.

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE.

Although the programme on Saturday night consisted of a triple bill, chief interest was centred in what was practically the first-night production of Synge's delightful playlet, "The Tinker's Wedding." The outstanding feature of the evening was the truly delightful acting of Miss Maire O'Neill, who created the part of Mary Byrne, the tinker's mother. With an excellent cast for the minor characters, a beautiful scene, and perfect lighting, the success of the play was assured.

The other two plays in the programme were "Everybody's Husband" and "The Workhouse Ward," in which Miss Maire O'Neill was delightful as Mrs. Donohoe. Mr. Dodd and Mr. Rea both gave a rich and ripe representation of the two bedridden Irishmen.

Miss Edie Veno introduced a new character song, entitled "I Had My Umbrella in My Hand," written and composed by Harry Luck, at the Hippodrome, Richmond, last week.

THE BRITISH BABY.

A CHAT WITH MME. ALYS BATEMAN. A worthy cause was served by the grand concert organised by Mme. Alys Bateman in aid of the funds of the Queen Charlotte Lying-in Hospital, at the Queen's Hall, yesterday. In a chat with an "Era" representative, Mme. Bateman stated that this is the first of a series of concerts which she is organising. She expressed regret that, owing to the numerous calls upon the pockets of the public for war funds, the Queen Charlotte Hospital had been somewhat neglected, and it was urgently in need



(Photo., Elliott and Fry.)
ALYS BATEMAN.

of funds. It is the babies to whom we must look for our future prosperity, and common sense demands that nothing humanly possible should be omitted to preserve the life of every British baby born into the world. The hospital was founded in 1752, and has at present for its patrons H.M. the Queen, H.M. Queen Alexandra, &c. Mme. Alys Bateman is a member of the Ladies' Committee. Already, through the concerts she has organised, she has endowed a room at the Star and Garter for the "Berkshire Boys."

DEATH OF DAVID COLLINS.

The death is announced of Mr. David Collins, the resident manager of the New Hippodrome, Spennymoor, who passed away on Tuesday, the 8th inst., after a few days' illness. The deceased first came to Spennymoor about ten years ago, and for eight years acted as manager for Mr. Hugh Robertson, the licensee of the old Cambridge Theatre. Mr. Collins later received an appointment as manager to a Morley theatre (York), and afterwards travelled further southwards to a similar position at the West Bromwich Empire.

In September last he again returned to Spennymoor when the Cambridge had been taken over and re-christened the New Hippodrome by Messrs. Ainsley and Donkin, and officiated as manager up to the time of his death. He was well known and liked in the profession, and at one period had himself travelled with several companies. Mr. Collins, who was fifty-one years of age, leaves a widow and four children. The funeral took place on Friday at Spennymoor.

THE LATE MR. HENRY DALLAS.

Mr. Henry Dallas died on the 4th inst. after a long illness. He was well known as an enterprising touring manager. As long ago as 1895 he toured South Africa with "The Sign of the Cross." This was followed by tours of India with "The Geisha," "The Runaway Girl," "The Belle of New York," and other popular pieces. He entered upon a two years' partnership with Mr. Bandmann in 1904, and later had the management of more tours in Africa and India of the Polities, and of several comedies, including "The Glad Eye." More recently Mr. Dallas went into partnership with Mr. Louis Casson in the management of theatrical companies.

"OK! LAWSEY ME!"

Farical Comedy, in One Act, by Thomas King Moylan, Produced at the Empire Theatre, Dublin, on Monday, May 7. Mr. Digby Dix Arthur Lee Shiela Doreen Tuile Mary Olive Macauley Dr. Bunney Pierce Stamer Constable 999E D.M.P. Hugh Bradley Paddy Duffy Gerald Desmond Lizzie Byrne Marie Heduvani Abounding in clever dialogue, topical local humour, and introducing some remarkably well-drawn character sketches this new piece made one of the greatest hits seen here for some time. The scene is laid in two Dublin suburban gardens, the one occupied by a bachelor doctor and the other by a young married couple keen on "doing their bit" by cultivating their garden plot. The amusing situations arising have been well conceived, and the dialogue is most effective. Mr. Gerald Desmond as the job gardener was a host in himself; Miss Marie Heduvani as the charwoman played her part to the life, and was responsible for much of the success of the piece; Mr. Arthur Lee (as Digby Dix) played with excellent reserve; and the remaining parts were capably filled.

The Mothers' Union cordially invites mothers of young children to attend at the new Infant Consultation Centre, Mary Sumner House, Westminster. This centre will be opened on Friday afternoons, from 2 to 4 o'clock, beginning June 8. The centre is intended for mothers whose husbands are in professions, business, or trade or are officers in either Service. It should be noted that this Society may be of considerable help to artists.

The May number of the "A.A." opens with greetings to the Actors' Association's new president, Sir Johnstone Forbes-Robertson; the new vice-presidents, Messrs. Gerald du Maurier and Charles Hartrey; the new chairman, Mr. Sydney Valentine; and to Messrs. Sydney Paxton, Arthur Wainner, and Norman McKinnell, new members of the Council. Miss Georgina Hamilton contributes a brief but telling article on "The Actor-Soldiers' Children"; and there is a strong appeal by Miss Lillian E. Simpson to all connected with the Association to "get more members." Members are also asked to send information required for the proposed compilation of an authentic list of actors who have answered the call of their King and country.

THE LATEST NOVELTY
(ALL LADIES)

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Mlle. SUZANNE VERNEY, Classical Dancer, just returned from Eastern Tour (previously with Pavlova), Mlle. Verney's dancing and acting in an Eastern Tableau bring down the house.

Charming MARGARET KYNASTON, in elaborate naval uniform, captivates all with her soprano numbers.

JEAN MAY-FAYRE commands success at every house and every performance with her rich deep contralto songs.

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Managers or Agents should see the show at the King's Theatre, Oswestry, before May 26. Tours being arranged South of England, Wales, and North of England.

Many thanks to Managers for dates and appointments to see the show at Oswestry.

All communications to Secretary.

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Rosebuds.—May 21, Surrey, London.
 Say What!—May 14, Hippo, Altrincham;
 21, Pat, Gooch.
 She Slipped.—May 14, Empire, Longton;
 21, Grand, Wolverhampton.
 Simple Life.—May 14, Hippo, Aston.
 Some Girls.—May 14, Empire, Islington;
 21, Hippo, Tottenham-Tees.
 Some Treasure.—May 14, Hippo, Hamilton.
 Special Mixtures.—May 14, Hippo, Man-
 chester.
 Stop!—May 14, Garrison, Balford;
 21, Hippo, St. Helens.
 Sunshine.—May 14, Granville, London.
 Sunshine Sue.—May 14, Olympia, Tred-
 egar.
 Tally Ho!!—May 14, Hippo, Margate.
 That's Enough.—May 14, Alexandra, Ponte-
 fract.
 Three Cheers.—May 14, Empire, Glasgow;
 21, Hippo, Glasgow.
 The Spoonful.—May 21, O.H., Black-
 pool.
 Tit-Bits.—May 14, Grand, Luton.
 Visions.—May 14, Hippo, Stockton-on-
 Tees.
 Wait and See.—May 14, Empire, Penge.
 What's He Doing?—May 14, Hippo, Bal-

The annual general meeting of the Com-
 cert Artists' Benevolent Association was
 held at the Criterion Restaurant on the
 6th inst.

Mr. Alfred Thomas presided.

In the annual report the committee
 stated that owing to the reduction in the
 number of At Homes held last season the
 Benevolent Fund collections show a de-
 crease, but on the other hand a consider-
 able saving was effected in expenses, and
 the substantial sum of £180 5s. 2d. was
 carried forward to the credit of the genera
 account.

After careful consideration, the com-
 mittee decided to pay the subscriptions of
 members serving in His Majesty's Force
 out of the Benevolent Fund.

After meeting all claims made upon
 the Benevolent Fund has been well main-
 tained, the balance carried forward being
 £1,509 1s. 6d., as against £1,985 10s. 10d.
 the previous year.

When Irish Eyes are Smiling—May 14, 1896,
Maltese, Maidstone.
Who's Who?—M. J. Pav. Northwich.
Wish Me Luck—May 14, Hippo, Hulme,
Manchester; 21, T.R., Bury.
Would You Believe It?—May 14, Grand,
Aberavon.
You Laugh If You Know.—May 14, Pav.,
Birmingham.
Zip-Zap!—May 14, Empire, Cardiff; 21,
King's Th., Southsea.

of accounts of the Association be adopted
the proposal being seconded and carried
unanimously. The balance-sheet showed
that the Association had received £200, and
an expenditure of £257, including £27
transferred to the Benevolent Fund. From
the last-named £124 15s. had been allowed
in grants, while £36 5s. had been allowed
in grants from the Sickness Fund.

CONCERT PARTIES.

All Sir Gaius, The.—May 21, Circus, Hull.
 Anglo-Lindia Co., Ltd. Company.—May 10,
 Palace, Stanford, Lincs; 21, Empire,
 Warminster.
 Brica-Brac, The (The Mantell).—May 14, St.
 Ives.
 Couriers, The.—May 14, Olympia Gardens,
 Crewer; 21, Sheringham.
 Excelsior, The.—May 14, Pier, Plymouth.
 Frills and Flounces.—May 14, Pavilion,
 Newport; 21, Pier, Plymouth.
 Gay Gondoliers, The.—May 14, Glasgow;
 21, Glasgow.
 Georgians, The.—May 14, Winter Gardens,
 Burnmouth.
 Gipsies, The.—May 14, Anglesea Palace,
 Burton-on-Trent; 21, Pavilion, Derby.
 Hustlers, The.—May 14, Pier, Penarth; 21,
 Pier, Penarth.
 Ideals, The.—May 14, Kursaal, Harrogate;
 21, Spa, Bridlington.
 Nightbirds, The.—May 14, Spring Gardens,
 Norwich.
 Nobodies, The.—May 14, Palladium, Lon-
 don; 21, Rushmore Pavilion.
 Pierrot, Pierrette, and Piano. — May 14,
 21, Pav. Bridlington Sp.
 Pronouns, The.—May 14, Institute, Swan-
 age; 21, Empire, Wareham.
 Punctillions.—May 14, Pavilion, Rhyl; 21,
 Arcadian Pav., Leeds.
 Qualities, The.—May 14, Pavilion, Govan;
 21, Pav. Stranraer.
 Radiants, The.—May 14, Down Hall, Holt,
 Norfolk; 21, Down Hall, Holt, Norfolk.
 Rogues, The.—May 14, Pavilion, Derby;
 21, Kursaal, Whiteley Bay.
 Samples, The.—May 14, Pav. Bexhill-on-
 Sea; 21, Palladium, Littlehampton.
 Scottish Doss, The.—May 21, King's T.,
 Kilmarnock.
 Tourists, The.—May 14, South Parade Pier,
 Southsea; 21, Spring Gardens, Norwich.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."

—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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That the Thorne Academy is successful in turning out a great many complete and accomplished little—and big!—artists was once more proved at the pupils' matinee given on the 8th inst. at the Prince's Theatre. The elocution section brought forward such ambitious work as the Tangle scene from Pinero's "The Amazons," in which capital work was done, especially by Miss Wynne Meyers, excellent in the description of Lady Noeline's adventure, and Miss Winnifred Snell, particularly smart as the sporty Thelma; also by Miss Winnie Symons as Wilhelmina, Miss Marianne Ravello as Lady Castlejordan, Miss Irene Kray as the Sergeant, and Mr. Willis Stacey as the Rev. Minchin. Then there was a scene from "The Tempest," prettily played in a fairy-tale style by Miss Maive Clair, Miss Pauline, Miss Barbara Russell, and Miss Eve Rowe, the last a winsome, light-footed Ariel.

No fewer than three complete ballets and two fairy fantasies figured on the programme, besides dance scenes and "pas seuls" "de deux," "de trois," and "de quatre" innumerable. Some of the dancing was very charming indeed. Among those who most distinguished themselves were Miss Anna Bellia and Jules André, clever exponents of both modern and classical styles; Miss Ingrida, in the charmingly arranged "Arcadian Idyll," were attended by a host of baby coryphées as light and nimble as fairies; Miss Margery May, in a "Flaming June" solo dance; Miss Vera Clarke, a singer with a pretty voice and good style, who appeared with little Patay

Bradfield, in a dainty "Rose and Butterfly" scene; and Miss Paula York, a charming "Vanity," with Nora Grant and Fifi Hallam as a pair of diminutive powder-puffs, who soon danced their way into the favour of a delighted audience.

The late Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale, whose death occurred on the 22nd ult. from phthisis, after a lingering illness, was a member of Sir (then Mr.) Henry Irving's first touring company that went to America. Later as "Le Loup" in the sensational drama, "The Face at the Window," he made a notable hit. He also had a long touring experience with varieties and appeared in many sketches. Mr. Armadale was the author of several plays, one of the most successful being "London's Curse," which had its first London production at the Surrey, July 15, 1901.

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This Week—"Lady Richardson."
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Manager, Mr. H. F. Ashton.
This Week—"A Royal Divorce."
Next Week—"Birth of a Nation."

TYNE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.

Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.
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LEEDS HIPPODROME.

Proprietors, Barrasfords, Ltd.
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Rehearsal, 12 o'clock.

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General Manager, Mr. Alan W. Young.
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On Monday, May 14, the play entitled
"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."

A most gratifying reception was accorded
on Monday to the above play, which is pre-
sented by Mr. Leonard Laurence, who, in the name-part, depicted every phase of
the character with praiseworthy fidelity.
Miss Dorothy West-Symes is a charming
and wholly natural Rose Lane. Mr. Harry
Collier as Bill Avery makes the very best
of a part rich in subtle possibilities. Mr.
Bruce Allen is just the sort of quiet, kindly
gentleman who would expect Rose's father
to be, and Mr. Robert Meredith is unob-
trusively forceful as the Lieut.-Governor
of New York. Mr. T. Arthur Ellis handled
the solid part of Doyle, the detective, with
masterly skill, and Mr. Roland Howard
immediately wins the hearts of his audience
by his genuinely humorous interpreta-
tion of "Rev." Valentine's pal. The
bustling prison official is admirably drawn
by Mr. J. Milne Taylor. Miss Georgie Lan-
craigne and Miss Clara Lancaster arouse
laughter as the priceless representatives of
the "Gate of Hope Society," and honour-
able mention should also be made of little
Miss Cora Handall, Miss Olive Carleton-
Crawne, Mr. Dunstan Leach, Mr. T. Cross-
ley, Mr. R. Winter, and Mr. Fred Valder.

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These can be obtained at all High-class Hairdressers', Chemists', etc.

A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN MARLEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! I am saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it." Mr. PHIL RAY.—"Not being fortunate enough to receive a sample of your excellent Grease Paints, I purchased some for myself, and after a lengthy trial I have no hesitation in saying that, from my point of view, it is immeasurably superior to any foreign make."



WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1917.

ADVERTISING AMUSEMENTS.

OF the many revolutions wrought by the war in the sphere of theatrical advertising, one of the most singular and certainly one of the most noteworthy is the novel policy which has recently been adopted by the management of the Royal Theatre. On a large number of Double Crown bills, which have been widely posted, and at the top of which appears the name of the playhouse in question, there may now be seen not, as might be expected, an advertisement of "Remnant," the comedy now running at the Royal, but a general plea on behalf of amusements in war-time. Set forth in bold black type and headed "Smiles That Do Good," it consists simply of the following important quotation which cannot be too often repeated by those who have the welfare of the theatre at heart: "The people's amusements, whether in the home, the open air, or in the theatre, should go on, as long as the public interest did not suffer."—LORD DERBY, January 25, 1917.

The management of the Royal Theatre is to be heartily congratulated on this striking and more or less altruistic departure. There can be no question but that the advertisement in question is a less effective advertisement for "Remnant" in particular than the ordinary type of specific announcement; but those responsible for the innovation have clearly had the good sense to see that, while this type of announcement may not have the effect of bringing in quick and immediate returns, it is certainly calculated to pay in the long run. Managers who now bend all their endeavours in the direction of securing long runs for individual plays should realise that, in ignoring the campaign which is endeavouring to secure that far more important object, a long run for the theatre, they are merely assisting in the strangulation of the goose that lays the golden eggs. The time, in fact, has arrived when it is of vital importance that the amusement world as a whole should be advertised, and when a strenuous endeavour should be made to impress upon the mind of the public the national value not of specific entertainments but of the whole entertainment world in general.

The good work which has been inaugurated by Mr. DENNIS EADIE deserves an immediate tribute in the shape of the sincerest form of flattery. It would, indeed, be an excellent plan for the managers to convene a meeting at which the whole question of combating the campaign against the theatres should be discussed in detail. We suggest that, at such a meeting, every manager should be invited to pledge himself to devote a certain portion of his advertising to the type of announcement which has emanated from the Royal Theatre. Authoritative quotations for placarding would not be far to seek. Mr. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN has declared that "It is absolutely essential that the civil population who are on the whole working harder now than they have ever done before, and upon whom the strain of physical and mental toil is being impressed, should be provided with amusements." Let one manager placard that Mr. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN has said, "I heartily agree with the necessity of the continuance of the work of the theatre." Let another manager placard that Mr. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN has said that "The amusement of the people is an essential part of national work, just as it is essential for us to eat and drink." Let a third manager placard that Mr. BONAR LAW has said, "I recognise the value of amusements to the public at the present time." "Every individual needs recreation." "There must be some means for helping people to forget, and without those means there will not be the best work from the nation at home." Let the hoardings repeat these pronouncements.

Unity, strength, and we of the amusement world need unity now as we have never needed it before. Co-operation must be the watchword of the hour; and if only managers will band together, as we have suggested, and devote a certain share of their energies to the urgent question of advertising the theatre en bloc, it should be easy to form a public opinion which would be invaluable in resisting any unreasonable restrictions which might, in the future, be placed upon the amusements of the people.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Intending visitors to the Kingsway should bear in mind that "Ghosts" is real drama—not, as its title suggests, one of those spectre-cle plays.

I'm sorry that the "Good News" at the Prince's turned out to be only a rumour.

However, I hope to see more Hicks in the West End before long.

OVERWEIGHT.

The Ambassadors (would you believe?)

Are patiently out to deceive!

When with Pounds they were thrifty

And weighed but One-Fifty—

They kept one Mor-ton up their sleeve!

Met a well-known manager the other day and asked him how business was. "Oh," he answered, "it's too warful for words!"

THE COMPLETE ALLITERATOR.

Miss Gladys Cooper (interviewed): "Now that I am an actress-manageress I shall want to attempt some of the more classic characters, say, of Shakespeare, Sardou and Sheridan." Shade of Sophocles (sulkily): "What Price Mei?"

HER PUBLIC TO MISS COOPER.

You from the first have managed Us indeed

With such complete success in time gone past,

How can you help, fair lady, but succeed

Now that you're managing Yourself at last?

Seeing that it was written so many years ago, I hear that one or two people have referred to it as Dam aged Goods.

Discussing the new Starch Restrictions and their effect on auditoriums, I see that one manager declares that in his opinion evening dress will have to go. What he means, of course, is that evening dress won't be able to go—to the theatre.

TOUCHSTONE.

WHO SHOULD PAY THE CRITIC'S TAX?

THE THEATRICAL MANAGER—THE NEWSPAPER—OR THE CRITIC HIMSELF?

SIR JOHNSTON FORBES-ROBERTSON

ALFRED BUTT

GEORGE ROBEY

J. T. GREIN, Dramatic Critic to the "Sunday Times"

CLEMENT SHORTER, Editor of the "Sphere"

ROBERT DONALD, Editor of the "Daily Chronicle"

In the following symposium a number of theatrical managers, newspaper editors, and dramatic critics express their opinions on the question as to who should pay the new tax on the dramatic critic's seat—the theatre, the newspaper, or the critic?

J. T. GREIN.
(Dramatic Critic to the "Sunday Times," the "Ladies' Field," and the "Era.")

In principle, I think that Press tickets should not be taxed when the critic goes to the theatre solely in the execution of his duty. Of course, some critics receive two invitations to first nights, and in such cases there arises the moot point: Should a tax be levied on that second ticket? In my opinion, it should be left to the discretion of the critic to send in the tax for that second ticket, although—most visitors to first nights are invited guests, whom one could not expect to be paying guests in any shape or form.

In most cases, as a matter of routine, the tickets reach the critic from the editor—for invitations to first nights are generally issued, not to the critic, but to the editor, who is requested to send a representative. In these circumstances, it would seem obvious that, if the editor instructs his critic to attend the performance, and if the management demurs at paying the tax, it would be a natural consequence that the charge should fall on the paper, and not on its representative. But, as I suggested before, it is to be assumed—and I think the West-End managers have already uttered a statement to this effect—that the tax on first-night invitation tickets to the Press will be at the theatrical managers' charge.

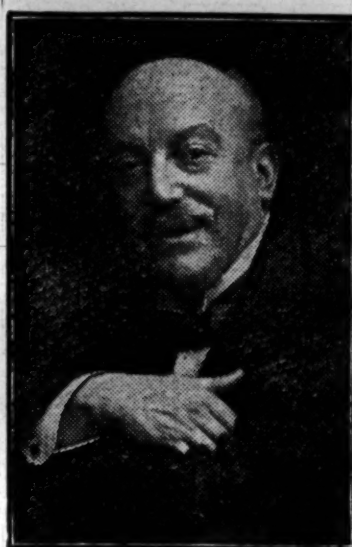
It must not be forgotten that many journalists are in the habit of paying second visits to plays—sometimes merely because they like the entertainment, sometimes because they think that a review in every sense of the word might be advantageous to the management. The decision in these cases should again be left to the critic's conscience. If the critic states, "I am paying a second call because I desire to write about this entertainment again," he is, as above indicated, acting in the execution of his duty, and should not be required to pay the tax. If he merely visits the theatre for the sake of his personal entertainment, it goes without saying that he should have the grace to offer to pay the tax.

Or, if that might lead to unnecessary correspondence, it would be a very good plan to adopt the system in vogue in France and in Holland. In these countries the Amusement Tax is called the *Droits des Pauvres*, and all tickets, as far as I remember, except what one calls there the *Service de Presse*, are subject to taxation. Now, what occurs in Paris or in Amsterdam when a person applies for the privilege of entering a theatre free is this: He receives his complimentary ticket, on which is printed, "Subject to the Poor Tax," and, on entering the theatre, he goes to the box-office and pays the tax only, whereon the ticket is duly stamped. This system has, on the whole, worked very well, and I think that it is likely to be adopted here.

Now, in regard to the ordinary deadhead, there is also a distinction to be made. There is the deadhead who applies for tickets, and who, of course, should pay the tax himself; and there is also the deadhead who is sought by the management when the production does not attract, and who is an admitted expedient for window-dressing the house—which is, after all, a form of robbing the public into the belief that things are going well. In other words, he is part of a settled form of advertisement on the part of the management, and for this I hold the management should pay the tax.

As admission to the more expensive seats has now, through the tax, reached a point at which even the best is not commensurate with the price paid for it, it is to be foreseen that, unless the tax, which all cheerfully pay at present because it is war-time, is repealed in normal

times, the frequentation of the theatre will suffer to such an extent as to call for immediate reduction of prices. As one whose occupations in life bring him into contact, not only with the world of the theatre, but also with the ordinary workaday world of business, I can state with some experience that many playgoers who have hitherto frequented the stalls now find the prices so exorbi-



MR. J. T. GREIN.

tant that they go to the dress-circle or the pit. For, parenthetically, there is a curious notion among the general public that if one cannot afford a stall or a balcony seat, the pit is the proper place to go to, the family circle being considered *infra dig.*, and entirely reserved for the middle-class—that faction to which most of us belong, but whose name we utter with a certain flavour of disdain. This question of lowering prices will have to be faced if the tax is not ultimately repealed—and that the tax will be repealed appears to me, to say the least of it, extremely problematical.

SIR J. FORBES-ROBERTSON.

Frankly, I give the question up.

ROBERT DONALD.

(Editor of the "Daily Chronicle.")
I consider the newspaper should pay the tax on the critic's ticket, and I should like to see the general custom established of a newspaper paying for the ticket as well.

THOMAS MARLOWE.

(Editor of the "Daily Mail.")
I regret being unable to agree with you in your opinion that the question is an interesting one to all managers, editors, and critics. I cannot believe that it is a matter of any interest to editors and critics, and I doubt very much whether it possesses any interest for managers.

The manager invites the critic to witness his productions, because he attaches importance to the critic's opinion, and wishes the public to know what the critic thinks of his entertainment.

The critic does not care whether his seat is free or paid for, inasmuch as the cost would not fall upon him.

The editor's position is slightly, but not materially, different. With regard to the greater number of productions, it is a matter of indifference to him whether he publishes a notice or not. As a matter of courtesy, and in accordance with usage, he permits the dramatic critic to attend on first nights at the invitation of the manager. The occasions when there are productions of real public interest are very few, and on such occasions it matters nothing to the editor whether the critic's seat

BY

A. G. GARDINER, Editor of the "Daily News"
THOMAS MARLOWE, Editor of the "Daily Mail"
AUSTIN HARRISON, Editor of the "English Review"
HERBERT FARJEON, Dramatic Critic to the "Sunday Pictorial"
THE EDITOR of the "ERA."

I do not quite understand your point of this distinction between the Manager and the Editor. Either the newspaper must pay the critic, and I think it should be the newspaper.

Only in a limited number of cases is the critic in a position to pay, and in those cases where there is a prosperous critic who has another occupation to supplement his income he frequently sends a deputy. The sum of 2s. is a trifle to the management of most newspapers. It is not always a trifle to the critic. I think, in any case, the tax upon free seats is an admirable one.

AUSTIN HARRISON.

(Editor of the "English Review.")
In answer to your question, I certainly think the critic or his paper should pay the tax on his seat, and in my opinion always his own seat, which will give him more independence.

CLEMENT SHORTER.

(Editor of the "Sphere.")
I do not quite understand your point of this distinction between the Manager and the Editor. Either the newspaper must pay the critic, and I think it should be the newspaper. Only in a limited number of cases is the critic in a position to pay, and in those cases where there is a prosperous critic who has another occupation to supplement his income he frequently sends a deputy. The sum of 2s. is a trifle to the management of most newspapers. It is not always a trifle to the critic. I think, in any case, the tax upon free seats is an admirable one.

A. G. GARDINER.

(Editor of the "Daily News.")
In answer to your question, I should say the manager. If the critic paid, he would simply return the item in his expenses account as a matter of course. The Editor has nothing to do with expenses incurred in the interests of the newspaper.

(Editor's Note.—We take it that Mr. Gardiner refers, in this reply, to the manager of the newspaper, not of the theatre.)

GEORGE ROBEY.

The manager.
(Dramatic Critic to the "Sunday Pictorial" and "The Era.")

Since dramatic critics go to the theatre for purposes of business and not for purposes of pleasure, it is anomalous that the free seats given to them by managers should come within the scope of an Entertainment Tax.

On this analogy, the Government might with equal justice tax the seat occupied by the conductor of the orchestra, who, whether he likes it or no, gets a free show seven or eight times a week. When, therefore, I am asked: "Who should pay the critic's tax?" my unhesitating reply is—Nobody. But, just or unjust, the tax will, I suppose, have to be paid, and the question whether the managers, the editors, or the critics shall pay it must be faced.

I do not think that the critics themselves will or should be asked to meet this extra expense out of their own pockets. I do not think they will be asked to, because, in those rare cases where a newspaper has been compelled to purchase the ticket owing to some difficulty with the management, the cost of the ticket has been borne by the newspaper and not by the critic; an important precedent. I do not think they should be asked to, because when other members of a newspaper staff are sent out to get a story, their expenses (railway fares, hotel bills, drinks, bribes, &c.) are customarily met by the firm; and because dramatic critics are already, with a few exceptions, notoriously ill-paid. In answer to this last point it may, of course, be urged that gentlemen so poorly remunerated could not possibly afford to take on their jobs unless they were possessed of very substantial private incomes. I do not think, however, that it was Mr. Bonar Law's purpose to impose an additional tax on unearned increment.

The issue lies, then, between the

manager and the editor, and I am inclined to think that the manager, with his usual courtesy, will offer to shoulder the burden. I trust, however, that this offer will not be accepted, for this might tend to damage honest criticism, which is already pretty copiously plastered. As it is, when a production is badly "slanged," managers on occasion not unnaturally ask themselves why they should send this critic a free seat and give him a free programme for writing a criticism the effect of which may be to keep people out of the theatre. If, in addition to the favours they already grant, is added a present of two shillings (the coming tax on stalls), managers, who are human enough not to delight in adverse criticism, may ponder this question still more seriously, and editors, who are human enough to prefer not to pay for their seats, will call their critics to account and adjure them to "go slow" in future. The practice of withholding seats is so rare that, even if the manager pays the tax, it is not likely to become common; but if it becomes less rare, as it is likely to under such conditions, it will inevitably be to the detriment of honest criticism—and that criticism should become less honest than it is at present, Heaven forbid!

It will be best, then, if this tax is paid by the editors—that is to say, the firms which the editors represent. I would even go so far as to suggest that it would be best if the seats themselves were paid for by the editors, since this would relieve everybody of being under an obligation to anybody. But that is another question, and this is not, perhaps, the place for its discussion.

ALFRED BUTT.

Mr. Alfred Butt has handed me your letter, and desires me to say in reply to your query: "Who should pay the tax on the critic's seats, the manager, the editor, or the critic?" that he considers they should be exempt, as it is part of their living.—(Signed) Thos. Courtly.

ALFRED BARNARD.

(Editor of "The Era.")
The idea that any tax whatever should be paid on a critic's ticket is a very odd, though very small, by-product of the war, and the question should not be confused with the broader one as to whether newspapers should pay theatre managers for the seats occupied by their representatives.

A critic attends the theatre to carry out his professional work, just as a barrister attends the Law Courts or a policeman his point of duty. He is paid for his work just as the barrister or the policeman, neither of whom are taxed. The fact that the barrister does not pay for his seat in court or the policeman for his "stand" does not affect the question of a tax. Hence I should argue that, even if it were decided that critics should pay for their seats, or their employers pay it for them, even so their seats should not be subject to taxation. The barrister and the policeman pay their taxes in various ways, by imposts on income and otherwise (in the majority of both cases, I suppose, mostly "otherwise"), and so does the critic (often, I believe, "otherwise"). Why, then, should he be taxed for the seat as necessary to his work as the seat and the stand are necessary to the barrister and the policeman?

Free seats used by "Deadheads" as apart from critics should be taxed, or—to be paradoxical—paid for.

But, apart from the fact that the revenue derived from the taxation of tickets issued to real critics would scarcely realise enough to pay the rent for one day of the family residence of one war-time busman out on strike, I think the Government should not tax the critic's seat. It's so much like taxing his brains.

HOW I CONFRONTED A BURGLAR.

By EDWARD COMPTON.

IT was in the autumn of 1886, when I was playing a season of old comedy at the old Strand Theatre, with old favourites such as Lewis Ball (and others), in my old Compton Comedy Company.

I was then living quietly and unostentatiously, as befitted my fortunes, at 54, Avonmore-road, West Kensington (which we always knew when I was a Kensington boy as Hammersmith). All the houses on one side of this road are of the same pattern, and all the rooms and accessories are (or were) exactly alike, down to the front door with stained-glass sides (Oh! Gibbs and Flew—well nicknamed—"Fibs and Glee!") and even to the locks thereon.

I had got home about midnight, when all good little boys and girls should be in bed (and mine were, including my good little wife). I was splendidly alone and magnificently lonely. About one o'clock, after a frugal supper, I sat down to smoke a good cigar (I can't smoke a bad one), and read a bad play (I have seldom been privileged to read a good one). Intense quiet and stillness hovered around me. I was getting drowsy, the play was getting dreary, and about 1.30 I was making up my mind to look after "locks, bolts and bars," to see to the turning of "lights down," and to make a more or less graceful exit to my bed.

Suddenly I was aware of someone ascending the front door steps, at which I started hurriedly up; and then I heard the stealthy fumbling of a key, presently followed by the careful opening and shutting of the street door. Imagine my feelings! Put yourself

in my place! Remember the nerve-racking stillness of the night, the great silence of the Great City shrouded in darkness and gloom, and—"pity the sorrows of a poor young man," husband, and father.

But—admire me! I instantly grasped the situation, and, muttering "Burglars!" I grasped the poker as well, and stood with it behind my back, full of determination, and (to be honest) full of alarm that was akin to fear. Very deliberately the Burglar moved about in the hall, rattling the hatstand (and me) at the same time, nearly upsetting the hall chair, and quite upsetting Charles Surface (the character I had played that night). He then opened my door easily and craftily, walked quietly into the room, and, as I raised my trusty poker to fell him to the floor, blandly asked me: "What the devil are you doing here?"

My answer was, obviously, "What the devil are you doing here?" And as I delivered it quakingly, he looked wonderingly round the room, and then exclaimed, "Damned if I haven't come into the wrong house!"

This was the simple truth. He was a respectable solicitor (the terror of burglars) living two doors away; he had been out to some public function (not to some public-house); his front door lock was the same as my front door lock, and his key fitted either "indifferent well"; he was tired and sleepy as he hung up his hat and coat in my hall as though "native and to the manner born"; and he sank down in my own particular armchair full of apologies, while I silently and shamefacedly finished my game of poker, and restored the harmless, necessary domestic implement to its proper place, never again to be used as a weapon of offence or defence.

I accepted his explanations, and he accepted a good cigar and a whisky and soda (or two), the while we both chatted amicably, carefully avoiding the subjects of "a Midnight Assassin" (me) and "a Brasted Burglar" (him)!
EDWARD COMPTON.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

For the Old Pro's Paradise.

Mr. George Graves, the president of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund and Institution, in his appeal on behalf of the Old Folks' Home at Brinsworth, is emulating the example set by "The Era" in starting a shilling fund. The Old Pro's Stakes, "The Era's" collection for Brinsworth, was, it will be remembered, instrumental in raising a handsome sum for the Home, Brinsworth being backed by all the principal managers and artists, many of whom worked untiringly in the collection and booking of "bobs."

For many years, it will also be recalled, "The Era" Shilling Fund on behalf of the old Music Hall Home was the chief assistance fund of that institution. This fund was initiated in 1906 at the earnest request of members of the profession, and so successful was it that it became a hardy annual. During the last six years of the Home's existence we were the means of collecting no less than £1,500. George Graves wants £5,000 for the Old Pro's Paradise, and I sincerely hope the gay gaffer may be successful in gathering in that amount.

That Slump and its Cause.

The sudden slump which swooped down upon the variety and other entertainments towards the end of last week and the beginning of this week was due, it is obvious, and indeed agreed, to so many entertainers being under the impression that the increased tax upon shows had already set in, whereas, of course, it will not start until July at the earliest.

And Perhaps?

Indeed, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer agrees to receive the deputation which I find so many variety and other managers are organising, it may be that that tax will not really start until the earliest time that it ought to start—namely, the late autumn. Last night I left many variety "heads" considering and arranging for this deputation, and anxiously awaiting his Chancellorship's reply to their very natural and respectful request.

A. B.'s New T. of V.

Alfred Butt has just informed me that although he is making nimble progress with the plans, &c. for his new Theatre of Varieties in the West End's Heart, he will not think of arranging for the actual building thereof until after "the Duration of the War."

Sunday Concerts for the Wounded.

In the meantime friend Butt is not only "doing his bit" in the Government's Food Control Department from early morn till considerably past "Dewy Eve," he is also continuing to give his splendid Sunday evening concerts for the wounded boys at the Victoria Palace.

A Clever Understudy.

Miss Katie Marsh, who is playing in "Zig-Zag" at the London Hippodrome, recently undertook Miss Daphne Pollard's character for a week; and on another occasion played Miss Cicely Debenham's part



(Photo, Hans.)
MISS KATIE MARSH.

at a few minutes' notice. The versatile and clever little lady was personally congratulated by Mr. George Robey.

For Conspicuous Bravery.

Lance-Corporal Percy Gibson, 2nd Batt. Middlesex Regiment, has just been awarded the military medal for conspicuous bravery in France. His colleagues at the Stoll head office are rejoicing thereat, for Mr. Gibson is the first of the many Stoll employees who have joined the colours to receive a decoration.

Death of H. A. Sprake.

The death from wounds on the 6th inst. is announced of Herbert Arthur Sprake, R.G.A., eldest son of the late Mr. Herbert Sprake, for many years the proprietor of Collins's Music Hall, Islington Green. After the death of his father in 1904, Mr. H. A. Sprake was for some time associated with Mr. Arthur Williams in the management of Collins's, but of late years he resided at Great Missenden, Bucks. He leaves a widow to mourn her loss.

Edmonton's Endeavour.

A motor ambulance being greatly needed in the district, the directors of the Edmonton Empire are determined to obtain the necessary funds for providing the same. To help along this worthy object, 50 per cent. of next week's profits will be given towards the fund, and in addition to a star company, extra talent will be provided, under the personal supervision of Mrs. Harry Bawn.

Newcomers to "Hanky-Panky."

Fresh fun has been introduced into "Hanky-Panky" at the Empire by the addition to the cast of Mr. Tom Drew, a resourceful comedian. Other newcomers who have quickly established their popularity are Miss Rosena Skilton, a talented English dancer, and Miss Dore Goy, a clever comedienne. A scene embracing a burlesque of a society charity function is in preparation for early production.

Congratulations.

The engagement is announced of Miss Kitty Allen, daughter of Mr. Frank Allen, the popular managing director of Moss Empires, and Captain Claud Holland Russell, of the Royal Fusiliers Special Reserve. Captain Russell was, I hear, wounded at Hooge.

Cheerio.

New scenes and songs are being introduced this week into that bright and witty revue, "Cheerio," which has just passed its 100th performance at the London Pavilion this week. One humorous number will, I hear, attempt to show how life is made more attractive for the indispensable plumber than for a much-restricted hero home on leave from the Front.

Wounded Heroes at Leicester Palace.

Over a thousand wounded men had a rare good time at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Friday afternoon, when a fine programme was presented, contributed to by Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Buena Bent, the Ryewodes (Winnie, Florrie and Tom), Tom D. Newell, Bell Bros., Holen and Bert, Irene Pearce, Molly Butler, and La Petite Nina. The arrangements were made by the acting manager, Mr. Truman Towers. A vote of thanks to Mr. Oswald Stoll, the artist, and Mr. Towers was moved by the Rev. G. E. Battle, Chaplain to the Forces, and carried with acclamation.

Boxing Contests at the Canterbury.

Mr. A. F. Bettinson has agreed to referee the 20 (3 min.) round contest between Bob Colton, of Bermondsey, and Ted Brewer, of Merthyr, which will be the opening event at the Canterbury Music Hall on Saturday, May 26. The men are so equally matched that a stubborn contest is anticipated. Other contests, arranged by Mr. Frank Morley for that day, are:—Ten rounds contests: Jim Burgess (Lambeth) v. Sid Shields (the ex-flyweight champion of Scotland); Billy Ganley (of Blackfriars) v. Wally Trainer (of Forest Park). Mr. Morley has also arranged an inter-service contest between A. M. Green, of R.F.C., and Pie. Ted Johnson, of A.S.C.

Mr. Cyril Clensy.

Mr. Cyril Clensy, the well-known mimic, who was recently discharged from the Army on account of shell shock, after over a year of active service, has joined Mr. Wilkie Bard, and is now appearing with him at the Coliseum. Mr. Clensy at present is only appearing in one number, in which, as a farmer, he "interrupts" (from the circle) Mr. Bard in his "Garden of Parnassus" song.

Other items are, however, in preparation, one of which may be produced during the current week. Mr. Clensy is an exceedingly clever actor, and as a mimic his brilliant work is well known.

Billiard Carnival for V.A.B.F.

At the Billiard Carnival on Sunday evening at the Vaudeville Club, in aid of the V.A.B.F., the snooker handicap was won by Bob Reilly. The club was crowded to its utmost limit, and among the players were Stevenson and Reece. During the evening a collection was made for the Old Folks' Home, which resulted in the handsome sum of close on £150.

Food Economy Campaign.

Mr. Harry Goodson, of Effingham House has, I hear, been entrusted by Mr. Kennedy Jones with the control of an advertising campaign in the theatres, music halls, and cinemas to urge the necessity of food economy.

Managers of these places will be asked to show a poster bearing the words, "Eat Less Bread," and displaying in the centre of the picture a loaf. Some 3,500 of these posters are to be issued at once, together with 3,500,000 handbills on bread saving. Managers are also asked to deliver brief speeches on the subject during the performances.

For the Widows and Orphans.

Under distinguished patronage a very successful matinee was given at the King's Hall, Dover, on May 8, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the men of the Swift and Broke who recently lost their lives. The hall was packed, and Mr. Harry Day, the popular manager and lessee, and Miss Showler, the local manageress, are to be heartily congratulated on the result, the matinee realising £75.

Several wounded men of the two destroyers were present, as well as a number of wounded "Tommys," who were entertained to tea and cigarettes. In an interval Mr. P. Hart warmly thanked the helpers and the management, especially Mr. Day for his generosity.

Pavilion, Glasgow, Matinée.

In aid of Ralston Hospital for Paralyzed Soldiers and Sailors a grand daffodil matinee was given at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on the 8th inst. Dorothy Ward, George Mozart, Shann Glenville, Jack Pleasants, Beryl Clifford, Linden and Berridge, Will Lacey, Les Van Deuren, Eddie Martyn and W. F. Frame, and Stanell and Carrodus contributed to the very enjoyable programme, and an added attraction was the auction sale of sixteen 7lb. bags of Tate's sugar.

Death of Sir John McDougall.

Sir John McDougall, a former chairman of the London County Council, who died at Greenwich last week, aged 73 years, was a son of Mr. Alexander McDougall, of Manchester. Coming to London, he took a very active part in social and municipal work, and will be remembered for the campaign he conducted for the elimination of undesirable features of the music hall. As representative of Poplar on the London County Council, and member of various committees, he rendered valuable services in the cause of local government in the metropolis for many years.

"Hello, Tommy, Here's My Hand."

At the Chiswick Empire this week Albert Brunet, the French Polu, introduced a new number, "Hello, Tommy, Here's My Hand," in which he is assisted by a "Tommy," in which he is assisted by a "Tommy." It proved to be an amusing item, greatly enjoyed on Monday.

For the Boys at St. Dunstan's.

On Thursday last Jack Godson organised an entertainment for the boys at St. Dunstan's Hostel. The capital programme included Frank Powell, in his popular successes, including his latest, "The Picture Palace Attendant." Among other popular contributors were George Newburn and Dorothy Varick.

Music Hall Boxing Championships.

Lieut. Russell Howard, formerly of 1st London Regiment, has presented a "cricket-ball bomb" to the Music Hall Boxing Championships' Fund for auction. The bomb has quite a history, being a souvenir of the strenuous days at Monchy. The Terriers have purchased Box A at the Music Hall Championships, to be held at the N.S.C. on June 7.

The Terry Trains, who are now in the R.A.M.C., have promised Frank Morley, through Mr. Fred Lee, that they will come along and do their inimitable boxing stunts. To the list of those who have entered for the competitions should be added the names of Con Clarke, who is now in the A.R.C.; C. H. Bright, of Low Lake's company; Arthur Kendall and Harry Ray. Jim O'Shea, of Maestry, one of the best of the new Welsh bantams, has been matched for a ten-round contest with Jim Burgess, of Lambeth.

Miss Hilda Stewart.

Miss Hilda Stewart has now firmly established herself on the variety stage in her monologue work. It seems but a year or two since that the writer saw her playing in the West End, particularly with Mr. Gerald du Maurier in "Raffles," in which



MISS HILDA STEWART.

she made a decided success. For over four years she was associated with Mr. Chas. Frohman, and for a considerable period with Mr. Arthur Boucherier. After touring with her own company Miss Stewart went to America, where she had a very successful time.

Upon her return she decided to go over to variety, and never regretted having taken this step. Until recently she played continuously for two years an original monologue called "Joseph's Coat," which is still in demand. Mr. C. Lanyon, the well-known author and magazine contributor, seeing her in this, asked her to read over the script of a sketch he had written, and, having done so, Miss Stewart felt that she had at last discovered a really novel show, giving her ample opportunities of displaying her emotional powers.

Anxious to give the new show a trial, Miss Stewart decided to shelve her monologue, and produced a few weeks ago the new playlet, which is called "The Flame," and is described as a comedy-drama. Managers and Press are unanimous that Miss Stewart has scored a triumph in this production, which is beautifully mounted, the clever actress making a charming picture in her effective gowns. On Monday next Miss Stewart opens in town at the Ilford Hippo.

"The Would-be Actors."

Carter Livesey scored a great success at the Palace, Walthamstow, on Monday, when he revived that laughable skit, "The Would-be Actors." If the applause at its conclusion means anything, another long run is in store for this capital playlet.

"Frills and Fancies."

Mr. Will Dalton tells me that he is now interested with the Hanway Bros. and the comedy revue, "Frills and Fancies," which is a laughing show in every sense.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee desire to thank Mr. George Manners, of the Empire, Liverpool, for sending, as a result of a collection, £5 7s. 6d., making the total for the Moss theatres of £288 7s. 11d. The annual guinea subscription has been received from Miss Clara Coverdale, and Miss Annie Coutts.

Mrs. Fred Kitchen is thanked for a useful parcel of boots and children's clothing, and Miss Vesta Tobey, Miss Violet Loraine, Mr. George Robey, Mr. George Graves, and Little Tich for autographed photo postcards.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Bruce Green officiated as W.T. Capt. De Villiers as V.T. Will Cody G.C., Arthur Gallimore W.I., Eddy LeHay W.D., Walter Norman Y.B., and Ernest Powell organist. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Owen Jaskoe, W. H. Atlas, Arthur Gallimore, Albert DeBreen, and Harry Gribben upon their re-appearance in the kennel. Letters have been received from Terriers Jack Harris (Germany), Reginald Prince (Woolwich), Weight Aitken (Exeter), C. J. Sattley (Salford), Henri Bekker (Osterley Park), and Charlie Grantley (Shornell's Hospital, Abbey Wood).

Zella Vondi and Co.

Zella Vondi and Co. are in town this week at the Hippo, Woolwich. When I saw this clever combination in their musical and dancing pot-pourri at Willesden last week I was much impressed with their artistic efforts. Next week Zella Vondi is playing Birmingham, which is her native town. Her first public appearance was at the Town Hall, Birmingham, when she was only six years of age.

A Popular Organ Act.

G. T. Pattman, the well-known British organist who made such a success at the Coliseum, has again proved that his act is one of the greatest attractions at present before the public. At the Palace, Barrow, on Saturday last, I hear, he broke all money-taking records, and has been retained for this week, in addition to the very strong company already booked. As I anticipated, this delightful act is practically booked solid for the next two years.

THE PILGRIM.

ARBUTHNOT v. POUNDS.

ARTISTES' PHOTOGRAPHS—IMPORT-ANT DECISION.

A case of interest to variety artists on the question of liability for payment for photographs was tried before His Honour Judge Woodfall in the Westminster County Court last Thursday. Elna and Toots Pounds, who are appearing in the revue, "The Bing Girls are Three," at the Alhambra, were requested with other artists in the revue to have photographs taken by Mr. Malcolm Arbuthnot. A free sitting was given, and some of the photographs were published in the pictorial weekly papers.

The plaintiff made sixteen copies of the photographs, and requested payment from Miss Elna Pounds of the sum of seven pounds. The artist declined to pay on the ground that she had not ordered the copies. In evidence the plaintiff admitted that he had given a free sitting, and after the judge had heard Miss Pounds's denial of placing the order he gave judgment for her with costs.

Messrs. Yarde and Loader were solicitors for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hugh V. Haraway solicitor for the artist.

MUSIC HALL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Mr. George Graves presided on Thursday, at the Vaudeville Club, over the meeting of the committee having in charge the Music Hall Boxing Competition, at the N.S.C., in June, in aid of the Benevolent Home at Brinsworth, Twickenham. Among those present were Mr. Frank Morley, Canon, Mr. George Gilbey, Mr. Bruce Green, Mr. Harry Gribben, Mr. Alf Squires, Mr. J. H. Thwaites, Mr. James Buchele (hon. treasurer), and Mr. Phil Ashmore (hon. secretary). Mr. Graves announced that all the half-crown seats had been sold, and the other seats were going so rapidly that he thought the house would be sold out before the day of the event. A resolution was passed that no one would be permitted to participate in the competitions open to music hall artists unless he had a clear record of one year's experience in the profession.

The latest additions to the prize givers are Mr. James White, Mr. Harry J. Preston, Mr. Walter de Frece, Mr. George Graves, and Mr. Joe Elvin, so that there will be at least twelve handsome and costly prizes offered for competition.

There is room in the competition for many more variety artists to show their prowess in the noble art. They will be in good company, for Mr. Morley has in view a number of "stars" of the lighter side of the programme will be sustained by well-known comedians who can also use the gloves expertly. A feature of the afternoon will be an auction of various articles, and among the curiosities offered for sale will be a notice-board used in Bapaume during the German occupation, and bearing a formidable list of the things "verboten" to the inhabitants.

Entries remain open two weeks longer, and are for men not exceeding 5ft. 10in. and 10st. 5lb., and the bouts will consist of three rounds of two minutes each. There is no entrance fee. Entries should be sent to Phil Ashmore, hon. secretary, 30, Bonville-street, E.C.4.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

After a phenomenal week's business with "The Bing Boys," variety comes as a change, but there is no falling off in the general excellence of the bill. Miss Florence Smithson is singing with her irresistible charm to the manifest delight of all; and the French Polu, Brunet, is here, and proves an accomplished artist. "A Regular Business Man," a pleasing little comedy, affords Miss Minnie Terry and Mr. Boyd Davis excellent opportunities, and they merit all the applause they get. Wonderful, too, are the agile Pasqual Brothers, for there is little these juggling artists cannot do; and "a wee Scotch lassie," Irene Pearce, promptly establishes herself a winner.

The O'Hara Trio of sisters are versatile, and the selections from their repertoire are hugely enjoyed; humour is found in the frolics of Holson and Bert; and Dan Whitley is as unctuously funny as it is possible to be. He proves an immense favourite, and keeps the house in the best of humour. Mr. J. Persich is "in front," a guarantee that all goes well.

METROPOLITAN AND CITY POLICE ORPHANAGE.

Mr. George Robey writes us that although he does not agree with the plea recently advanced in various quarters concerning theatrical performances on Sunday, for profit, he does most emphatically consider Sunday an excellent day on which charity performances may be given. With this thought in his mind he wants to make another appeal to the generosity of the public for a cause that is very dear to every Londoner's heart.

On Sunday evening, June 10, at 7 p.m., he is organising a concert at the Palladium, under the auspices of the National Sunday League, in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage. War service has caused many gaps in the ranks of the Police Force, and the calls upon Mr. Orphanage are increasing daily. Mr. Robey hopes by means of this concert to make up to a slight degree for the loss of their annual Crystal Palace fête, which is of such value to the Orphanage; and appeals to all those who have benefited by the vigilance and care of the Police Force to help him on this occasion. Tickets for the concert are on sale at the National Sunday League offices, and full particulars of the programme will be announced shortly.

Messrs. Cecil Elgar and W. G. Barnard, proprietors of the Palace Theatre, Freshwater, I.O.W., have taken over the West Wight Cinema, known as the Hippodrome.

Betanourt, the French Cuban wonder, is appearing with great success at the Grand Clapham, this week. Next week he will be at the Holborn Empire.

A most successful item at the various "socials" held in their spacious recreation hall by the ladies attached to the Woolwich division of the Army Pay Corps is a medley of Feldman choruses, excellently rendered by the A.P.C. orchestra. Another popular number is the waltz, "Pet. o' the Pay Corps," composed by Dolly McCalla, daughter of Lee-Corpl. Harry o' that ilk.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

One of the two chief items in the programme placed before a crowded house on Monday last was "Cutlets," described as "a revuesque quick-fire burlesque in one scene." This bright little entertainment is performed by a company consisting of three principals (Miss Dolly McCalla, Mr. Hal Whitby, and Mr. Fred Monti) and eight chorus girls (Eden's Eight "Hors d'oeuvres"). It has been written by Mr. Mason Dixon, and the music is by Mr. W. H. Dorsey, with interpolated songs by arrangement with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. It may be said at once that "Cutlets" is a very pretty and amusing little show. The mounting is simple but very effective, and the same may be said of the costumes. It is obvious that someone with a fairly keen eye for the artistic has been engaged in the production, and whoever it is deserves congratulations. Miss Dolly McCalla is an attractive girl, who sings and dances well, and possesses a sense of humour. Mr. Hal Whitby is a bright and energetic young premier; whilst Mr. Fred Monti proves himself an admirable comedian. Altogether a very entertaining little show.

The other prominent item in the list is "Long Liz," a comedy playlet, by Mr. Herbert C. Sargent. This is presented by Miss Phyllis Dailley and her company, which includes Mr. Charles Graham, Mr. Fred Knight, and Mr. J. H. McKay. Joe Lucking (a widower), Tom Mabbit (a bachelor), and Joe's grown-up son, Rob, all three live together. Joe is a tailor, Tom a sweep, and Bob a railwayman. Their home is sadly in need of a woman's hand to keep it in order, and young Bob introduces "Long Liz," whom it is known that he is fond of, but whose reputation seems to be somewhat doubtful. She quickly overcomes, however, the objections of Joe and Tom to her intrusion, and, indeed, in a short space of time they both propose. The comedy of the situation is at its height when "Liz" states that she cannot marry either of them because her husband won't let her. The husband, of course, is Bob, whom she has recently secretly married. The comedy is very well played, particularly in the case of Miss Dailley, and is full of Cockney humour. It had an excellent reception.

Others who contribute to a very good programme are Sergt. Wragg (military athlete), Rose Cambry (comediennes), Claude Golden (a really excellent comedy card manipulator), Jose De Moraes (tenor vocalist), and Joe Archer ("the cheerful chappie"), who was soon very popular.

GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME.

For some time past it has been the policy of the management of the Golders Green Hippodrome to agreeably alternate the strictly musical and dramatic with the usual type of variety performance in popular vogue at the halls. In pursuing this programme, the tastes of all classes of patrons in the neighbourhood are thus admirably catered for from time to time. This week, for example, lovers of music have an opportunity of listening to some of the finest work of international composers as interpreted by Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company. To interpret two operas in one evening, a contingency involved by the twice-nightly custom, must undoubtedly involve considerable strain on the strongest vocal forces, but it was apparent at the second performance on Monday evening that the company, after having traversed "Rigoletto," was fully equal to the task imposed in "Il Trovatore." In this famous example of Verdi's brilliancy, the principal parts were distributed among the Misses Kitty Brownless, Mary de Brunner, and Ethel Dennis, and Messrs. Richard Cliffe, F. S. Clifford, Sidney Cliffor, and Charles Neville. To Mr. Francis Herbin also a word of praise is due for his magnificent leadership of the orchestra.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Notwithstanding the delightful weather conditions prevailing out of doors, a good audience was present at Mr. Oswald Stoll's popular house on Monday night. An excellent company was billed. Mr. Jay Lauer, with "Something's the Matter with Me" and "Nobody Loves Me," met with a great reception. In response the comedian gave his popular "Ginger Wine," the chorus of which was taken up with a will by the audience. Dan Rolyat, assisted by dainty Constance Worth, gave the successful farcical episode, "The Ghost of the Doree Thorne."

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Girl," at its conclusion being heartily recalled.

Mr. Charles Whittle has in "Home to Breakfast in the Morning" a song just suited to his quiet style, and is also well suited to "Let's Have the Lights Up in London." The turn was cordially received. Mr. Nelson Jackson gave a new recitation, "The Scrapper and the Nut," which went exceptionally well, as did also a topical and apropos story, mainly concerning an Irish recruit. Clifford and Grey showed cleverness and dexterity in a hoop manipulating act, played at hurricane speed; and a turn which met with a full measure of appreciation was the burlesque opera impersonation of Signor and Mme. Borelli. Madame Renee, a clever instrumentalist, contributed a musical turn of a high order, her rendering of Macagn's "Intermezzo" on the concertina and "Garden of Roses" on the saxophone bringing down the house. Katie Butler as the precocious child of a stage-struck mamma showed herself a capable comedienne; and Halma, the dancing juggler, with his remarkably clever act, brought a thoroughly satisfactory entertainment to a close.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

Great favourites here are George Good-fellow and Jennie Gregson who contribute their whimsical and inimitable comic interlude with "Take Me Back to My Devonshire Home," their screamingly comic duet interpolated and win deserved and persistent applause. Frank Whitman, the dancing violinist, proves that gratiation is no bar to fiddling. On the contrary, it gives added zest to his selections, and his saving the violin, the use of a playing card and a glass of beer as a bow are distinct novelties.

Albert Whelan, the antipodean entertainer, is very popular with his whistling, stories, and his songs, "Baby," "The Fountain of Youth," at the piano, and "In the Good Old Days Way Back Home," a capital number. Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, scores his usual success with "Just Because I've Been Rejected," "Come to Your Dad, Dad, Dad" (pretty domestic ditty), and "Once I Used to Wish I Was Young," all with taking tunes; and Tom E. Hughes, the shabby-genteel individual in his alcoholic rhapsody, and his serio-comic song, "I Wonder What It Feels Like to be Poor," strikes an original note of humour.

Estelle Rose, with her hebraic reminiscences and song of the harassed Italian spouse cured with a lazy husband, acts and sings with wit and vivacity, and her Michael and his "Antonio" song is well delivered. The 5 Fitzgerald girls, in club juggling, contribute a clever entertainment, with many distinctive features; and a most exciting piece full of incident is provided by Miss Tittel-Bruno and company in Sewell Collins's melodramatic sketch, "Bracelets."

FENGEE EMPIRE.

The comedy revue, "Wait and See," is a merry and bright entertainment. A funnier impersonation of a waiter than Mr. Duddy Hurl's it would be difficult to find; and he can sing, too. Mr. Jack Edwin makes the part of a Yorkshire farmer a most amusing one, and his chorus song, "Bow-wow," is cleverly worked up. Mr. Billy Lynn sings and acts well as George Grabbit; a man-about-town, and incidentally a smart bookie.

Miss Jean Robb as Florrie Flowerdew never allows things to flag while she is on the stage, and her "Knut" song was a great success, the ladies of the chorus having the lines of her chorus boldly written on Japanese umbrellas, which were unfolded successively, and gave the audience but little excuse for not joining in. Miss Milly Doon as Martha Makertass, who has answered matrimonial advertisements was very funny; and Mr. Lewis Leslie sang well as Colin Arthurs, an impresario. The dresses of the ladies were tasteful, and the entire proceedings were well put on.

The variety part of the programme includes some clever roller-skating by Billy and Burke; Mr. Syd Sydney, who works hard and well in featuring the humours of his clever policeman song; and the Bioscope.

Miss Dorée Thorne writes:—"Sir, I notice that in your issue of May 9, in your criticism of the 'Big Show' at the Finsbury Park Empire, the name of Miss Doree Morgan was given in place of Miss Dorée Thorne."

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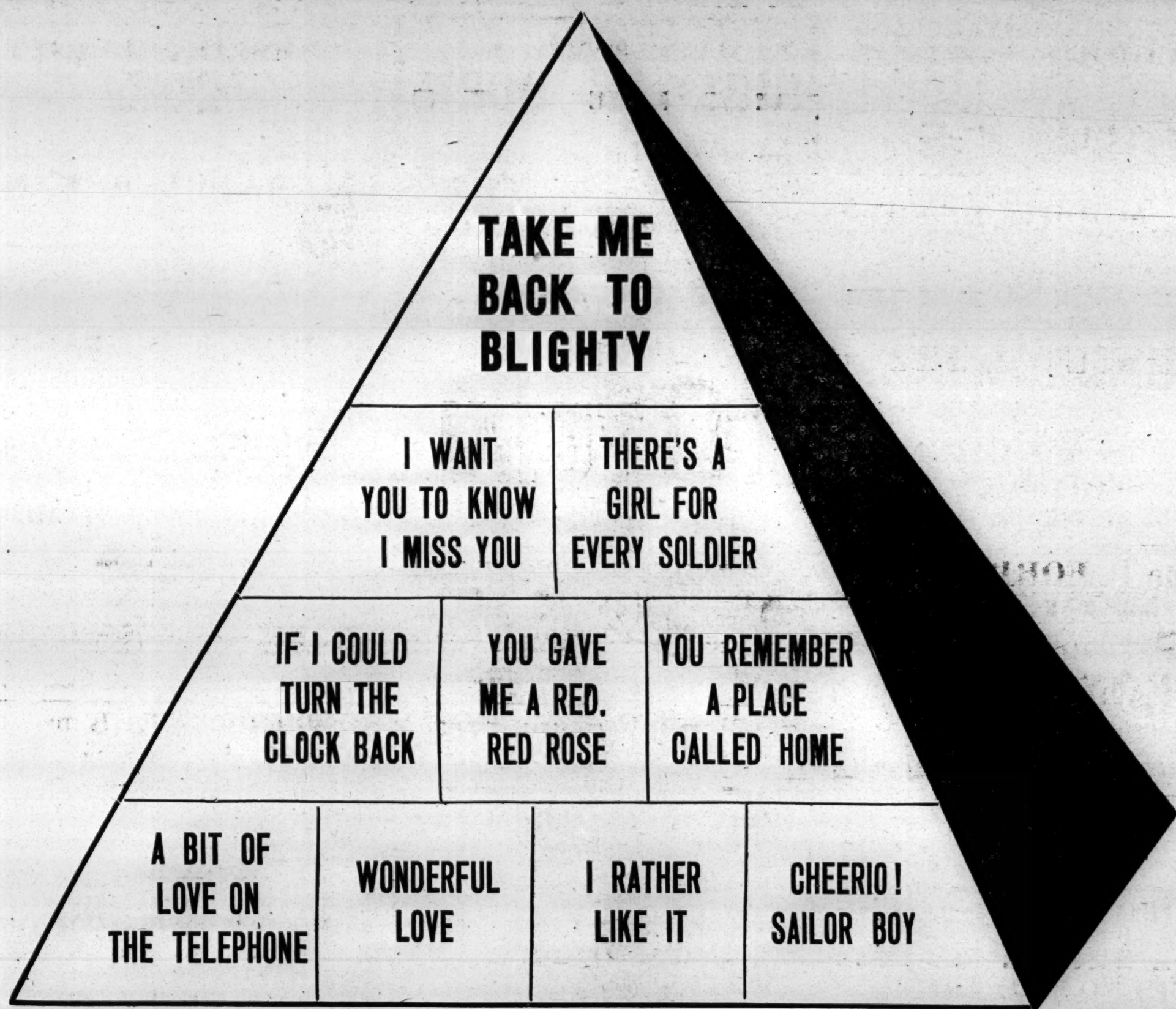
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This Week, THE OXFORD, W.

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A MASTER-STROKE OF POLICY.

(BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

The bedrock of all successful organisation is finance. For a trade organisation it must be good business to pay adequately to support the trade. There must be neither charity, nor must the trade be dependent upon the endowment or generosity of the big financier. In order to secure an adequate income for the full defence of the trade and to extend its usefulness, every legitimate source of revenue must be available.

It was therefore a master-stroke of genius that originated the proposal of transferring the Censor Board with its possibilities of revenue to the Trade Council in order that profits arising from the trade and its development might come back for the benefit of the trade as a whole. The discussion which took place at the last meeting of the

that the general body of traders will recognise that in paying the necessary fees for the censoring of films they are contributing to the funds that will be expended to the full for the general good of the industry.

NECESSITY FOR A CLEAR POLICY.

Whilst the trade as a whole would be failing in proper appreciation and gratitude if it neglected to appraise at its full value the financial support given by the successful and generous men in the industry, it would be fatal to continued progress to rely upon such help being forthcoming to meet the necessities of the future. Great emergencies undoubtedly produce a splendid response from all who really grasp the importance of trade de-



"The Old Folks at Home," with Sir Herbert Tree and Josephine Crowell.

Cinema Trade Council was adjourned until the meeting fixed for to-morrow (Thursday, the 17th), and will carry this question a stage further.

During the successful working of the Film Censor Board since its establishment certain profits have accumulated, and it is obvious that if the Censor Board is to be an institution rightly claiming public recognition for its good work, there must be no possible reproach that it is being carried on for profit. That reproach would be at once removed if the surplus funds went back to the trade that paid them, and were allocated to either trade defence or extension. It is sincerely to be hoped that this policy will find acceptance, and

fence. But it is unfair that these ready and willing helpers should be continually called upon to supply the means that ought to come from the whole body of traders making a living inside the industry.

Just two points, then, for serious consideration. The regular payment of every member of the Exhibitors' Association and the other trade societies affiliated with the Trade Council must be graduated on a sufficiently sensible business scale to cover all possible expenditure on trade defence; and, as in the case of the British Board of Film Censors, no section of the trade must be able to make a profit out of the industry unless that profit comes back into the general funds for trade protection.

"ULTUS AND THE THREE-BUTTON MYSTERY."

SHOWING HOW THE MACHINATIONS OF BRITAIN'S ENEMY WERE FRUSTRATED.

Production Gaumont British
Star Aurele Sydney
Type Drama
Length Five Acts
Release Aug. 27
Distributors Gaumont Film Hire Service
"The Three-Button Mystery" is the fourth of the series of Ultus's adventures, eight trade shows of which were arranged at Gaumont's Private Theatre last week. This episode deals with the escape of Ultus from prison, and relates how he comes to the rescue of a British Cabinet Minister who has been kidnapped in the East End of London by a gang of crooks in the pay of a wealthy secret service agent of one of Britain's deadliest foes. Ultus stumbles on the Minister's coat, and by the help of three buttons which he cuts off thwarts the schemes of the gang, rescues the Minister, and himself escapes. Mr. Aurele Sydney gives another exhibition in this episode of vigorous and dramatic acting, and is ably supported by Mr. Charles Rock and Miss Manora Thew. The episode is of topical interest and full of exciting adventure. The East End scenes, showing the Minister addressing the crowds, are well staged, and some luxurious interiors are shown.

[See our Film Marking.]

"A CHILD OF THE WILD."

A PRETTY LOVE STORY, WITH A VILLAGER MAIDEN AS ITS CHARMING HEROINE.

Production Wm. Fox
Star June Caprice
Type Drama
Length Four Acts
Release July 9
Distributors Gaumont Film Service
The heroine of this new Fox film, which was presented at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday, is a little village lass, whose schoolmistress has been Dame Nature and who has never known the irksome confinement of a schoolroom. Therefore, when Frank Trent comes to this remote village and opens a school, he finds June a difficult problem. It is solved, however, by the springing up of a friendship between teacher and pupil which quickly develops into love. Of course, Frank has a rival, Bob Gale, who has wooed June in a rough fashion, but has no chance when the good-looking young schoolmaster appears on the scene. Bob tells June that Frank is a married man, and his story seems to be corroborated by the arrival of a young

woman and a little girl, both of whom Trent welcomes with open arms. However, June learns very quickly that the new arrivals are her lover's sister and little niece, and Gale gets much the worst of it in an encounter with Frank. Very charming and winsome was the village maiden as represented by Miss June Caprice, who has a wonderful command of facial expression. Another delightful performance was that of Baby Jane Lee, an astonishingly clever child-actress, as the little mother who takes charge of the household, her mother having been stricken with a mortal illness. A Fox film that was received with demonstrative expressions of approval.

"THERE'S MANY A FOOL."

TELLS THE STORY OF A MAN WHO, HAVING PLAYED THE FOOL, MEETS WITH DESERVED PUNISHMENT.

Production Wm. Fox
Star Hank Mann
Type Comedy
Length Three Reels
This Fox comedy film was also shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday, and proved to be a diverting story of a fool who, married to a lady of a particularly severe type, falls a victim to the wiles of a woman whose character may be guessed by the fact that she is known as "The Vampire." She, in pursuance of her plan of campaign, becomes the Fool's fellow-passenger on board a liner, and succeeds in making his acquaintance. The most amusing part of the story comes when, at a gay and giddy party, the real wife puts in an appearance, and in the course of a wild chase, in which all the principals take part, many comical things happen, and the Fool is taught a lesson which should effectually put a stop to any further philandering with young ladies of doubtful character. Most successful impersonations were the Fool of Hank Mann, a genuine comedian, and the alluring Vampire of Miss Carmen Phillips, while Charles Arling also gave valuable assistance in an important rôle.

[See our Film Marking.]

"HOME, SWEET HOME."

ROMANCE FOUNDED ON THE POPULAR BALLAD.

Production Clarendon
Type Drama
Length Four Acts
Release July 9
Distributors Gaumont Film Service
The plot of this picture, shown to an invited audience at the West End Cinema on Wednesday last, bears little relation to one's conception of the song. It deals with the fight between father and son, each

striving to attain fortune in his own way. The father, Anthony Tregellis, once a successful financier but now a struggling farmer, denies himself and his ward, Sheila, in order that his son Walter may be kept at college. Walter returns home, but does not take kindly to farming, and embarks on a career in the city. He is very successful, but is finally ruined by the manipulations of another financier, who turns out to be his father trading under another name. The picture finishes with Walter disillusioned and returned to his old home. The picture is admirably photographed and well lighted. The acting is competent, and the contrast between the quiet home life in the country and the din and hurry of the big city is consistently suggested throughout.

"MONEY MAGIC."

A POWERFUL STORY OF A MAN WHO GIVES HIS LIFE IN PAYMENT FOR A WOMAN'S FAITHFULNESS.

Production Vitagraph
Stars Edith Storey and William Duncan
Type Drama
Length Five Parts
There are some fine open-air scenes in "Money Magic," which, screened by the Vitagraph Company at the West End Cinema on Thursday, tells an interesting and gripping story. Bertha Gilman is courted by Marshall Haney, a wealthy saloon keeper and reformed gambler. She finally agrees to marry him, and a wild miser shooting Haney, apparently fatally, sends for her and she becomes his wife. Bertha's nursing brings back Haney to a semblance of his former self, though he is badly crippled, and husband and wife go to live in a luxurious home at Colorado

Springs, where the simple girl begins to develop, mentally and physically. She meets Ben Fordyce, a strong, athletic, honourable young man, engaged to Alice Heath, a consumptive out West for her health, and the young wife and Ben fall in love at first sight. Each is true as steel, but finally Alice, realising the truth, breaks off her engagement with Ben, and tells Haney the truth. The latter knowing that to ascend the mountains would prove fatal to him, deliberately goes to his death, and thus Bertha and Ben are free. Miss Edith Storey and Mr. William Duncan cleverly realised the two principal characters, and other parts were all admirably portrayed.

"A MARKED MAN."

A VERY HUMOROUS AND FINELY PLAYED BY W. W. JACOBS PICTURE.

Stars Frank Stanmore, Kenelm Foss, Judd Green, and James Reardon
Type Comedy
Length Two Reels
Distributors Jury's
A typical and most amusing W. W. Jacobs picture, "A Marked Man," was screened on the same occasion. Of course,

rescues the girl, at the same time administering a severe drubbing to her would-be betrayer. Helen and Hugh are mutually attracted to each other, and their betrothal occurs simultaneously with his election to Congress. An interesting narrative, well acted and screened.

"THE MOTHER OF DARTMOOR."

MOTHER'S LOVE RECLAIMS WILD SON.

Production London Film Co.
Star Elizabeth Risdon
Type Drama
Length Five Reels
Controllers Jury's, Ltd.
A fine tale of the romantic Western Country, which has been made familiar to all by the genius of Thomas Hardy, was shown at the private theatre of Messrs. Jury on Friday. Avis Pomeroy, a wise and fond mother, has a son as headstrong and wild as his native Dartmoor. Jilted in love by a heartless girl, he becomes the associate of a poacher, and later is sent to prison. On his release, bitter against his mother because she declined to screen him, he decides to go to London, but alters his mind just as the train is on the move, and returns home. The love and wisdom of the mother in the end prevail over his wild and stubborn nature, and she has the satisfaction of seeing her son, before she dies, tamed and happily married.

probable, the film is finely acted by the two principals, and many extremely beautiful landscapes are shown.

[See our Film Marking.]

"THE RULING PASSION."

STRONG DRAMA OF RUSSIAN LIFE.

Production Ideal
Type Drama
Length Five Parts
This film was shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Thursday. The Princess Doua, kind-hearted and wealthy, takes under her charge a poor girl, thrown out of her home by a dissolute and brutal father. Instead of showing gratitude, she betrays her benefactress and robs her of her husband, eventually, on the Princess's supposed death, assuming her position as his wife. A dramatic situation in the story is that where the supposed dead princess, awaiting burial, awakes from a deadly trance, and to the joy of the solitary mourner, her former and faithful lover, is able to accompany him to more congenial surroundings. The faithless husband later comes to a tragic end by falling headlong over a cliff, while the ungrateful woman goes back to the gutter, from whence she came. Many beautiful and interesting pictures combine to make the film notable.

[See our Film Marking.]

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."

SIR HERBERT TREE SCREENED IN HOMELY AMERICAN DRAMA.

Production Triangle
Star Sir Herbert Tree
Type Drama
Length Five Acts
Release Aug. 20
Distributors Triangle Co.
The Triangle Co. inaugurated their second year of trade shows by filling the Alhambra on Friday last with an invited audience, whose enthusiasm augured well for a continuance of the success already achieved by the policy of this company. The production under review is a strong drama of parental love. Sir Herbert Tree plays the part of a Yankee farmer, who is elected to the Senate. His only son falls a victim to a woman of loose character, and kills her lover, who, jealous of the boy, had struck the woman. His mother's passionate appeal to the jury at the trial is successful in saving him from the gallows.

Sir Herbert Tree's portrayal of the father is expressive and natural, and he acts throughout with a true sense of perspective. The artist who played the mother was also very good, the fervid sincerity of her appeal to the jury in the trial scene evoking a round of applause. All artists supporting Sir Herbert Tree in this film are well cast. The artistic setting of the country scenes and the beautiful silhouettes at the conclusion of the picture are typical of this company's comprehensive methods.

"THE SOCIAL SECRETARY."

SHOWS THE VALUE OF CLOTHES AS AN AID TO BEAUTY.

Production Triangle
Star Norma Talmadge
Type Drama
Length Five Acts
Release Sept. 3
Distributors Triangle Co.
In addition to "The Old Folks at Home," noted above, the Triangle screened this picture at the Alhambra on Friday last. The Social Secretary found her beauty a serious drawback when she had to earn her own living, so she "un-gilded" herself and obtained a position as secretary to a lady. For a time all goes well, until her employer's son penetrates her disguise. He tries to embrace her, and she threatens to resign, but after showing his love for her and reforming his manner of life he wins her love.

Norma Talmadge as the Social Secretary shows how charming and dainty methods are helped by pretty dresses and attractive make-up and handicapped by contrary conditions. Her portraiture in this picture will increase the circle of her admirers. She is supported by a competent cast.

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it has to deal with some hardy old salts, a cozy village pub, and a buxom landlady. The latter has lost a son, shipwrecked years before, and it occurs to two of the wily sailors that their mate, Ginger Dick, should impersonate the dear departed, whom he resembles, and thus become master of the pub, the other two, of course, sharing in. Learning that part of the bargain is that he must be tattooed all over, Ginger Dick at first demurs; but after a vision of the pub and the landlady's daughter, and a liberal supply of beer, he gladly consents. The tattooing business is very funnyly pictured, and finally Ginger Dick plucks up his courage and visits the inn. The widow stares and the daughter shrieks, and soon Ginger, who vaguely recollected a face like the widow's in his childhood, is leaning over the counter with trembling hands and a pathetic "Mother" on his lips. Suddenly the widow's agitation calmed. In vain Ginger held out his arms. The tears no longer flowed. Coldly she drew the amazed Ginger's attention to a portrait on the wall. Prominently in the foreground was her son's hand, and to his horror Ginger saw that two fingers were missing! Glancing down at his own complete bunch of fingers, he finds the game is up, and sorrowfully departs to square a little account with his two friends. The three salts were all very humorously played, and the picture throughout, which is of fine photographic quality, one of the funniest we have ever seen.

[See our Film Marking.]

"SPIKE'S B'ZZY BIKE."

A LAUGHABLE ILLUSTRATION OF THE MAXIM THAT "ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND SPORT."

Production Gaumont
Star Dan Russell
Type Comedy
Length Two Acts
Release July 9
Distributors Gaumont Film Service
On the same occasion the Gaumont Co. showed No. 1 of a new series of twelve exclusive two-reel comedies, one to be released weekly for twelve weeks. Tom Head and Joey Runner, rivals in love and sport, enter for a cycle race, and Tom goes in for strict training. During the race he fixes a gas-bag to his waist to give him quicker action, but Joe discovers the subterfuge and takes steps to counter this device with startling results. The rivals get up a terrific speed, and are finally brought to a standstill by crashing into a studio. The comedy is full of clever "stunts," and the action is carried through with volcanic and bewildering energy.

[See our Film Marking.]

"THE GRAND DUKE'S ABDUCTION."

THRILLING EXPERIENCE OF A RESOURCEFUL YOUNG AMERICAN WOMAN.

Production Vitagraph
Stars Peggy Hyland, Marc Maeder-mott, Bobby Connelly.
Type Drama
Length Five Parts
How a plucky and lovable American heiress, Peggy Dare, saves the life of the juvenile Grand Duke of Bonalaria is dra-

matically and prettily pictured in "The Grand Duke's Abduction," a very interesting Vitagraph Blue Ribbon screened at the West End Cinema on Friday. Peggy first foils an attempt to kill the child, and is presented at Court and decorated. Later, the villainous Prince Henri, who is attracted by Peggy's beauty, causes the Grand Duke to be abducted, and Peggy, in order to save the boy, to whom she has become greatly attached, agrees to fly with the villain in order to save the Grand Duke. This she is finally instrumental in doing, with the aid of her lover, Carr, who apologises to her for his suspicions; and in the final delightful picture we see the boy duke waving farewell to them as he exclaims, "Some day you'll come back when I'm more grown up." Miss Peggy Hyland gives a charmingly natural and sympathetic portrayal of Peggy; the little Duke is most amusingly played by Bobby Connelly; and Marc Maeder-mott is excellent as the manly lover, all the other parts being well played. Humour is plentifully interspersed with the more dramatic incidents; and the film, which is finely pictured, is altogether a most attractive one.

[See our Film Marking.]

"THE TRUTH ABOUT HELEN."

A ROMANTIC STORY IN WHICH LOVE AND POLITICS ARE AGREEABLY MIXED.

Production Thos. Edison
Star Grace Williams
Type Drama
Length Four Parts
Controllers Jury's, Ltd.
Produced at Jury's Theatre on Friday, this proved an interesting story of politics and love—a dangerous combination. Helen Moore and Raoul Kent plan to elope, but the car in which they make off breaks down, and they are compelled to go for shelter to a neighbouring hotel, Raoul endeavouring to prevail on Helen to stay the night with him and get married in the morning. This the girl indignantly refuses to do, and a struggle between two ensues, during which Hugh Graham, hearing screams, breaks into the room and

"THE GREY MASK."

A SECRET SERVICE STORY, CONTAINING MANY THRILLING INCIDENTS.

Production Imperial Film Co., Ltd.
Star Edwin Arden
Type Drama
Length Four Acts
Shown at the private theatre of the firm in Wardour-st., on Wednesday last, this film deals in interesting and topical fashion with the Secret Service, and describes the way in which the German emissary is outwitted by a smart American and his charming lady confederate. A New York inventor discovers an explosive which proves to be of a highly destructive character. His assistant, named Stevens, in the pay of an enemy Government, tries to steal the formula, but, being discovered, is dismissed. He then takes to experimenting on his own behalf, but with disastrous results, an explosion causing his face to be so disfigured that he takes to wearing a grey mask to hide his features. This disguise is imitated by the detective, who is thus enabled to gain admittance to the headquarters of the organisation to which the spy belongs, and eventually to bring him to justice. In the end the detective marries his fair colleague and the grey mask is laid aside. Photography and acting are alike excellent.

[See our Film Marking.]

"A CHILD OF NATURE."

ORPHAN GIRL, LIVING LIKE AN ANIMAL IN THE FOREST, DISCOVERED AND WON BY A "MERE MAN."

Production Ideal
Star Mae Marsh
Type Drama
Length Four Parts
Produced at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Thursday, "A Child of Nature" proved to be quite away from the usual run of photo-plays. It is the story of a small girl whose parents were killed in an Indian raid, and who has grown up in the forest, completely isolated from the world, with a couple of bears as sole companions. But one day a strange animal comes into her horizon in the shape of a handsome young hunter of big game. Many delightful scenes are witnessed, the girl, wholly innocent of the outer world, proving an enigma to the man. Needless to mention, it ends in a love match, and the bears and her other wild playmates are left behind—though, no doubt, not forgotten. Interesting but im-

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FILMLAND GOSSIP.

Gaumont Films.

The wonderful personality of Clara Kimball Young is given full sway in the Gaumont photo-play, "The Rise of Susan," which is being shown to the trade this week. The picture is excellent in every way, and is hall-marked throughout its five reels with the names of W. A. Brady and Clara Kimball Young.

Next week Gaumont's will be showing "The Bondage of Fear," a gripping story of a wife who quite innocently became entangled in a maze of circumstances connected with a former lover. A burglar becomes possessed of her secret, and, as one would anticipate, turns this knowledge to account. Henceforth the young wife carries a load of misery on her shoulders, which is not done away with until Fate forces her hand in a rather startling manner.

Ethel Clayton and Arthur Ashley give very fine performances. In this picture Ashley declares that he plays his 42nd villain. Brady's staging is, of course, a notable feature, and the picture is also interesting because it is the first World Brady-made photo-play in which Rockcliffe Fellows has played. We hear that Messrs. Gaumont have now secured the exclusive service of Mr. Victor Hicks, the well-known artist, for the designing of posters and sketches in this trade.

Pathe Films.

Exhibitors are asked to note that the title for Messrs. Pathe's Gold Rooster play, "The Enchantress," has been altered to "The Empress." This has been done in order to avoid any infringement of copyright. This film, together with a two-reel comedy, "The Judge's Ward," will be shown to the trade in Messrs. Pathe Freres' roof garden theatre on Friday next, May 18, at 3 p.m.

The following week, on May 25, Messrs. Pathe Freres intend to introduce "Kick-in" to the trade. This is one of the strongest plays that America has sent us lately. It will be remembered that this play made a great impression on the legitimate boards at the Vaudeville Theatre about a couple of years ago, where it had a highly successful run.

No serial has ever caused so much speculation or pleasurable anticipation in managerial circles as has "Pearl of the Army." It is a fine serial, and with its war background will at the present time prove a decided draw. The main character is admirably sustained by that queen of serial actresses, Pearl White, who goes through enough adventures, fights, and hair-breadth escapes to fill a three-volume novel.

"How much improved the Pathe Roof Garden Theatre is" was the general verdict of all who assembled at its re-opening on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. The pretty theatre has been entirely reconstructed, and with its wealth of plants, foliage and palms, its handsome velvet draperies and curtains, and its artistically coloured walls, it makes a charming picture which could not fail to rouse admiration. The screen is now at the entrance end, and leaves more space for entrance and exit. The auditorium can accommodate a much larger audience, and altogether Messrs. Pathe Freres may be congratulated on having quite the coziest, prettiest, and most up-to-date private theatre in the trade.

Phillips' Film Co.

The completeness of the organisation which controls the Phillips' Film Co.'s activities all over the British Isles is illustrated by the long list of trade shows which they announce this week for centres outside London. Full details appear in our list elsewhere.

Mr. N. Ormsby-Scott is fortunate in having a reservoir of first-class Phillips Films, which have made good in England, but are new in Dublin, to draw upon. He is not content with one good film at a time, but shows them in couples, and consequently his private shows to exhibitors are of the greatest interest. For the next occasion the "card" consists of "Dress" and "The Mysterious Mrs. M." which will be shown together at Dublin on the 22nd at the Saville-street Cinema, and at Belfast (Octagon) on the 25th.

At the City Picture House, Lime-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday next, the 23rd inst., the Phillips Films Co. will be showing "The Boy-Girl," a five-part Bluebird, with Violet Mersereau featured, which is well up to the high standard of their earlier issues in quality, while boasting a story which has even more novelty than usual.

Trade show arrangements include the display of "The Boy-Girl" by the Phillips Film Co. at the Picture House, Briggate, Leeds, on Friday, the 18th, at 11 a.m.

The occasion, by the way, will have a personal interest also, inasmuch as Mr. Ben Simmons, recently appointed to represent Phillips in Yorkshire, will be presiding at his first trade show for this company.

Mr. St. Clair advises us that he will be displaying his latest good thing from the Phillips Film Co., the five-part Bluebird photo-play, "The Boy-Girl," on Tuesday, the 29th inst., at the Queen's Hall, Northumberland-street, Newcastle, at 11.30 a.m.

Broadwest.

"A Munion Girl's Romance," a film now in active preparation by the Broadwest Film Co., will have a special feature in the presentation of Mr. H. Sykes, one of the most expert airmen of the White Head Aircraft Co. The company have generously permitted Mr. Sykes to appear in this film, and he will give a thrilling exhibition.

Ideal.

The remarkably striking performance of H. B. Warner in the Ideal picture, "The Vagabond Prince," is attracting much attention from exhibitors just now. Mr. Warner already had a good deal of valuable work to his credit on the screen, but the restraint, the dignity, the power, and the fine judgment which he exhibits in "The Vagabond Prince" place him in the front rank of picture "stars."

Triangle.

"Fate's Cross Roads" is the title of the Triangle drama to be shown to the trade at the Shaftesbury Pavilion next Friday. An invalid artist is painting a picture of "Lucifer, Son of the Morning," but cannot discover a satisfactory model for Lucifer. Ordered West by his doctor, the artist finds an ideal devil in a fare dealer in a small fishing town. But this "devil's double" refuses to pose until he is urged by the

Artist's wife, with whom he falls in love. Before the picture is completed, the model goes away from the camp to escape from temptation. When he returns after a "little while" he finds that the artist has been murdered by outlaws, and the woman he loves is in even greater danger. He rescues her, confesses his love, and promises to reform, and in return wins her promise to wait for him. William S. Hart plays the "devil's double." Enid Markey is the woman, and Robert McKim is seen as the artist.

Fox Films.

The Fox Film Company promise a real thriller, entitled "The Love Thief," at their trade show, to be held Wednesday next, May 23, at 11 a.m., at the Shaftesbury Pavilion. A new Fox star, Miss Gertrude Hart, will make her debut in the picture in question. The film has for its theme love and war, with a setting on the borders of Mexico. Under a blazing Texas sun is worked out a plot which for daring and thrill, we are told, is unusual and amazing in every detail. Miss Hart is supported by Alan Hale. Some extremely interesting scenes have been filmed of the magnificent United States Cavalry on the warpath, and the picture throughout, we hear, is topical to a degree, and will rouse any audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm as they watch the boys of Uncle Sam's Army.

On the occasion of the above trade show a Fox comedy picture, "The Film Spoilers," will be shown. Charles Conklin and a number of clever comedy artists endeavour to expose the innermost secrets of the motion picture art. All the scenes in this film were taken in such a manner as to show the modus operandi of the Fox studios in California. Apart from the fun promised, this picture should prove interesting as a real peep behind the scenes.

International Exclusives.

International Exclusives, Limited, are just putting the finishing touches to "The

tenders"; and from to-morrow Mrs. Buckley has chosen "Phantom Fortunes," with Barney Barnard, the original Potash in "Potash and Perlmutter," in the cast, as her speciality.

From Monday, at the Princes, "The Consuming Flame" is chief attraction; and from to-morrow "Mr. Meeson's Will," from Rider Haggard's story, will be exhibited.

Bristol.

Leading films at Wallace's Olympia for the week are "Infidelity" (Fox), "The Laughing Mask," "The Soldier's Oath," and "The Fanatic."

"The Marriage of William Ashe," from Mrs. Humphry Ward's novel, is the principal feature at Livermore's Palace. The cast includes Alma Taylor, Henry Ainley and Stewart Rome.

At Stoll's Bedminster Hippodrome leading pictures are "Little Lady Elleen," introducing the popular screen actress, Marguerite Clarke; and "The Woman in the Case."

Buxton.

At Buxton Picture House "The King of the Forest" proved a great draw. Other

Sunday evening, with the result that she was able to hand over upwards of £50 to the hospital for our wounded soldiers at Christchurch-road, Streatham. Mr. Bransby Williams, Charles Coburn, and others, delighted a very appreciative audience. Mr. Williams rendering three recitations in his inimitable style.

Mr. Fred Wildon, in khaki, with his phonofiddle, his whimsical remarks, and clever playing, was very popular. The Grey Ladies' Orchestra gave selections, and Miss Nita Bruce topical songs at the piano. The banjo playing of Mr. Joseph Bull was a revelation as to what can be done with this instrument in competent hands. Miss Kathleen Fryer, who is the leader of the orchestra at the Streatham Empire Picture Palace, is to be heartily congratulated on the success of the concert.

To Aid the War Seal Foundation.

Mr. Oswald Stoll's happy idea for helping the War Seal Foundation fund for disabled soldiers and sailors by giving special Sunday evening concerts (with cinema) at the Stoll Picture Theatre, is likely to meet with hearty support. The

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THE CINEMA COMMISSION.

EIGHTEENTH SITTING.

Mr. J. A. Seddon, organising secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' National Union, gave evidence at Monday's sitting of the Cinema Commission. He said that he was convinced that the cinema had given to the workers a form of entertainment which in the main constituted a real pleasure and a respite from drab surroundings. Nearly 100,000 people were directly engaged in the industry, and his reason for accepting his position was partly based upon the labour aspect. It was felt generally throughout the trade that except in rare and isolated cases the charges made against cinemas were based upon innuendo, hypothesis, or prejudice, and even the exceptions had been used for general condemnation. The Union welcomed broad and comprehensive investigation of the charges, as there was absolute fearlessness that a judicial inquiry would result in general condemnation.

DEFAULTING EXHIBITORS.

As to the power which the Union possessed with defaulting or non-members, a fine could be applied to members, and, failing this disciplinary method, expulsion. In the case of non-members who for selfish motives remained outside, and whose conduct of their business was inimical to the general good of the whole trade, the use of a White List would be a protection for all who were united for clean business as well as self-preservation, and would be a guarantee to the public that the subscribers thereto were bound by a common obligation to collective action against the unscrupulous. Another weapon equally powerful was the influence of the renters. Any small minority who resisted the collective efforts of exhibitors would soon find its supply so limited that competition with rivals would be hopeless.

NO CASE AGAINST THE CINEMA.

Mr. P. Sharp, Director of Education, Newcastle-on-Tyne, said that during the last three years in no single case among the 186 commitments to industrial schools had it been suggested that the genesis of wrongdoing was due to the cinema. As far as Newcastle was concerned, no case could be made against the cinema in respect to juvenile crime. There was a real danger of making study too easy. Poponised mental pabulum of any kind atrophied the intellectual digestion, and education by cinema would ruin it.

CINEMA TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR DISABLED SAILORS AND SOLDIERS.

This committee has been set up by the Minister of Labour in conjunction with the War Pensions, &c., Statutory Committee.

The functions of the committee are—
(A) To advise as to all questions that affect the reinstatement into employment of disabled men formerly in the trade.
(B) To make inquiries and to advise with regard to the possibility of the permanent employment of disabled men not hitherto working in the trade.
(C) To report upon any schemes of training either in technical institutes or in factories that may be necessary for disabled men, whether formerly employed in the trade or not, and to give advice as to suitable centres throughout the country in which such training might be given.
(D) To advise upon any general questions with regard to the rate of wages to be paid to disabled men in the trade.
The committee has been constituted as follows:—
Representing the Cinematograph Trades

Council: F. R. Goodwin, Will. G. Barker, Sidney Bacon, Paul Kimberley.

Representing the Amalgamated Musicians' Union and the National Orchestral Association: J. B. Williams.
Representing the National Association of Theatrical Employees: Edward H. Mason, William Johnson.
Representing the Electrical Trades Union: J. Kinniburgh.

A representative of the Minister of Labour and a representative of the War Pensions, &c., Statutory Committee will attend the meetings of the committee in a consultative capacity without the right to vote.

Mr. Paul Kimberley has been appointed technical adviser to the Committee upon Methods of Training. The chairman of the committee is Mr. F. R. Goodwin, and the hon. secretary is Mr. William Johnson.

"Tale of Two Cities."

By the courtesy of the directors of the Fox Film Co. we were present yesterday at a private screening of their latest masterpiece, "The Tale of Two Cities," a very fine film, featuring William Farnum. The trade show is being held at the Alhambra next Tuesday, at 3.

"A Daughter of the Gods."

At the Stoll Picture House, on Monday, will be shown, by arrangement with Mr. C. B. Cochran, the William Fox production, "A Daughter of the Gods." This stupendous film features the famous Australian aquatic actress, Annette Kellerman. The film will be shown twice daily. Special music by an augmented orchestra will also be an added attraction.

"The Missing Link."

The Globe Films, Ltd., are giving a trade show at the New Gallery Cinema on Friday next of the latest Homeland comedy, entitled "The Missing Link," in which Lupino Lane and Winnie Delevant are featured.

Central Cinema, Wood Green.

Mr. Charles K. Mackenzie, who is now managing the Central Cinema, Wood Green, is well known as a variety manager, having occupied that position at the Palace Theatre, Clitheroe, and Palace Theatre, Leyland. He commenced cinema management at the Picturedrome, Widnes. Mr. Mackenzie has many World Brady films booked, including "Perils of Divorce," "Sudden Riches," "Woman's Wit," and "The Fatal Scar," and broke all records recently with "The Mark of Cain." Mr. Mackenzie, who joined up in the London Scottish, has been medically rejected.

Palace de Luxe, Wood Green.

At the Palais de Luxe, Wood Green, the management has, for the past 12 months, been in the keen and capable hands of Mr. A. E. Bishop. Some very important films are to be screened there shortly, including "The Woman in the Case," "Dawn," "Ora pro Nobis," "Under Two Flags," "The Silver Wolf" (Scout film), and the "Picure" Comedies.

"Winning a Continent."

The all-British super-film, "Winning a Continent," which is shortly to be presented to the public, does not, we understand, deal with the Boer war in any way, but rather seeks to show the heroic sufferings and dogged perseverance of the original Boer pioneers who founded the great South African Republic, and whose descendants are now fighting side by side with us in the fight for freedom. Great care has been taken by the producer not only to avoid any controversial incidents, but to illustrate the cordial relations now existing between the British and the South African Dutch peoples.

A Man of Many Parts.

A very varied experience in the entertainment business has been enjoyed by Mr. Alfred H. Elliott, who for the last nine years has been publicity manager to Sidney

Bacon's Pictures, Ltd. He was at one time acting manager at Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, and for eight years was touring manager in pantomime and drama for Messrs. Dottridge and Longden. Mr. Elliott also managed two pantomimes for Mr. J. F. Ellison, of Bolton; the Drury Lane drama, "Sins of Society," on tour; and has been associated with several other touring managements. As an actor he has played many parts.

A Cinema Enthusiast.

Mr. Gerald G. Dodd, who recently acquired the South-street Electric Theatre, Dorking, always had a fondness for the cinema. He has himself taken many local topics, including "The Manufacture of Lime" (filmed at Dorking Lime Works), "The Meet of the Local Drag Hounds," and a "Poaching Film" showing various methods of taking pheasants and rabbits by unauthorised sportsmen. He is the author of "At the Eleven Hour," a Hepworth film. By continuing his policy of showing only the best films, Mr. Dodd is assured of success at Dorking. He was a cinema actor for some months before going into management.

Bairnsfather's Pictures on the Film.

Captain Bairnsfather has succumbed to the all-conquering film, and is shortly to be seen in his own personality at the head of a series of his world-renowned cartoons depicted on the screen. The arrangement of the pictures is most adroit, and in a way unique. Following upon the appearance of Captain Bairnsfather himself in some characteristic poses, a mysterious hand appears and proceeds to draw the pictures, which are thus actually reproduced line by line before the spectators. The series will consist of 24 pictures, issued in batches of eight each. The first will be shown at a special exhibition at the West End Cinema, Coventry-street, W., on Tuesday, May 22, at 11 o'clock.

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Labour Leader," the first of their British-made super productions, which will be shown to the trade very shortly.

The story is one of exceptional strength. The production is on an elaborate scale, and the cast includes such well-known theatrical favourites as Owen Aherne, Fred Graves, Lauri de Frece, Fay Compton, and Christine Silver.

A considerable amount of interest is being evinced by the trade in this film, and enquiries from all parts of the country have been very heavy in view of the fact that it is the first production by Mr. Thomas Bentley since his phenomenally successful subject, "Milestones."

Mr. Low Warren, late editor of the "Kinematograph Weekly," has now joined International Exclusives, Ltd., as joint manager, and will occupy a seat on the board of directors.

Hepworth's Latest Comedies.

Hepworth's two latest comedies, "The Joke that Failed" and "Neighbours," have been secured by Butcher's Film Hire Service, Ltd. The first-named is an 825ft. film, featuring Lionel Howard, John Butt, and Christie White. The same artistes with the addition of Ruby Belasco are featured in the second film, which is 1,425ft. in length. The scenarios are by Percy Gordon Holmes, and have been produced by Frank Wilson.

Brighton.

Sarah Bernhardt in the great film, "Mothers of France," is Mr. St. W. Johnson's powerful attraction at the Palladium, and a monument to the heroic courage and self-denial of our valiant Allies; whilst from to-morrow Kitty Gordon will be seen on the screen in "Her Maternal Right." Amongst other items of the programme of the week is the fifth series of "Sons of Our Empire."

At the Court Mr. F. Tyler Wiggins presents the delightful Triangle Irish comedy drama, "Four Irish Girls," in which Bessie Barriscale and Charles Ray shine brightly; and from to-morrow the chief attraction is the Fox production, "The Mediator," featuring the splendid acting of George Walsh.

"The Romance of Billy-Goat Hill" reproduces the success of town at the Luxe this week, and its exciting situations are followed with deep interest. It gives place at the bill-top to "The Veiled Woman" to-morrow.

Beautiful Emmy Whelan, of the Gaiety, is screened at the Academy in "The Pre-

good subjects made up an eventful week. These included the fifth part of "The Girl and the Game" and "The Unattainable," the latter a fine all-round subject.

At Buxton Hippodrome "The Oath of Protea," the fearless woman, furnished irrefutable evidence that Mlle. Josette Andriot is a star performer. "Hoodman Blind," from the drama by H. A. Jones and Wilson Barrett, made a very attractive subject, and those who had seen the piece on the boards were enthusiastic in their praise of its high-class interpretation on the screen.

Pictures at Leicester.

Mr. Jackson, at the Cinema de Luxe, has another fine programme this week, which includes as the outstanding features the Triangle drama, "The Man Who Lost"; the Lasky production, "Betty to the Rescue," featuring Fanny Ward; a fine Bolton picture, "Philip Holden-Waster," with Richard Bennett as Philip; the Triangle production, "A Modern Taming of the Screw," supported by Enid Markey and Dustin Farnum; and numerous other films of the highest merit.

Mr. Trueman Towers, at the Floral Hall, always screens pictures of a most attractive nature, and places at the front this week the Famous Players' "Rolling Stones," which successfully features Marguerite Courtot, Owen Moore, Alan Hale, and W. J. Butler; "Treasure Trove," the first episode of the serial, "The Shielding Shadow" (in 15 episodes), with Grace Darmond, Ralph Kellard, and Leon Barry; A Romance of Billygoat Hill, with Myrtle Gonzalez; and a goodly list of other good films.

Oxford Pictures.

The main films to be seen at the Electric Palace, Queen-street, are: "A Romance of Billygoat Hill," a romantic play by the authoress of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch"; "Billy the Truthful," featuring Billy Merson; and a war picture entitled "Shell 43." Paramount-Burton-Holmes pictures are also included.

The George-street Cinematograph Theatre are showing "The Wager," with Emily Stevens as star; "Sunshine and Shadows," and "The Beast," a fine Fox film. "The Birth of a Nation" is announced for May 21.

Entertainment for the Red Cross at Streatham.

Miss Kathleen Fryer organised a successful and enjoyable entertainment at the Streatham Empire Picture Palace on

concerts commence at 6 and finish at 10.30. The full orchestra will play selections, and patrons will, in addition to a fine evening's entertainment, have the knowledge that they are helping along a very praiseworthy object.

French War Films at the Scala.

The latest edition of the French official war films is included in the programme of the Scala Theatre. The first film deals with the coronation of H.I.M. the Queen of Ethiopia, and the ceremonies and festivities in connection therewith being carried out with great pomp. Films of topical interest deal with the recent visits of President Poincaré to the reconquered territories from Soissons to Rheims. The vandalism of the retreating Huns is pictured in the town of Noyon, where they let the river loose, flooding parks and fields, profaned the cemetery, and hacked down fruit trees prior to their departure. Terguier is a pile of ruins, and so is the famous fortress of Concy. The pictures convey to the mind the sufferings our brave Ally has undergone more tangibly than columns of printed description can ever hope to do.

The film entitled "Alsace Awaiting—1870-1917," deals in a dramatic manner with the period indicated, and concludes with young Alsace, after 47 years, once more saluting the banner of France.

Children and the Cinema.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council reported that their attention has been drawn to the fact that at children's matinees in cinematograph halls it is sometimes the practice, when there is a large attendance, to put two children into a seat constructed for one person. They are of opinion that the practice should not be allowed, and recommend that a condition be attached to licences granted by the Council under the Cinematograph Act stipulating that not more than one child be accommodated in any seat constructed to hold one person only, provided that for the purposes of this condition an infant in arms shall not be regarded as a child.

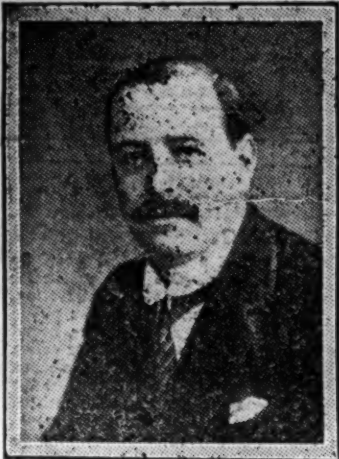
Dickens Film.

An application was recently made to the Broadstairs Council for permission to show a kinema version of "David Copperfield" in the town on Whit Sunday, May 27. By the casting vote of the chairman, Dr. Brightman, the necessary permission was withheld. Before giving his casting vote Dr. Brightman stated that his views with regard to Sunday entertainments were well known.

A DIE-HARDS' DAY

AT THE WEST END CINEMA.

Mr. G. F. Sexton, the proprietor of the West End Cinema, on Tuesday, the 8th inst., very generously handed over the day's takings to the Middlesex Hospital, for the endowment of a bed in memory of the men of the Middlesex Regiment who have fallen in the war, and he also took good care to



[Davis and Hammond.

MR. SEXTON.

Sole proprietor, West-End Cinema.

make the programme so attractive that the business of the day should be trebled. Considering the programmes usually offered at the West End Cinema, and the difficulty sometimes experienced in obtaining a seat, this was by no means an easy task.

The arrival of Colonel the Right Honourable Sir William Henry Dunn, Lord Mayor of London, and the Lady Mayoress, was the signal for a great ovation from all present. There were also present Major Louis Arthur Newton, Alderman and Sheriff; Mr. George Hayson, Sheriff, and Mr. E. V. Huxtable, Under Sheriff; Sir George Welby, Mayor of Westminster; Mr. J. Fettes, Mayor of Marylebone; Mr. W. A. Wayland, Mayor of Deptford; and Colonel W. Simpson, secretary, Middlesex T.F.A., and several hundred of our wounded soldiers.

In addition to some very fine films, the artistes included those well-known variety stars Bransby Williams, Little Tich, Coram

the ventriloquist and "Jerry," Miss Helen May, Miss Nellie Corti, Miss Shirley Kellogg, Miss Paula St. Clair, Miss Gwelda Tiller, Mr. Jaa. A. Hartopp, Miss Peggy Rowe, Miss Kitty Fieldes, Mr. Robert Cunningham, Mr. Eric Williams, Sgt. Percy E. Gayer, Miss Doris Barrington, Mr. Victor Borlee, Mr. Jimmy Godden, Mons. S. Jacobs, Mons. Manuel L. Luna, Mr. Rex Harold, Miss Freda Brandon. The audience also had the pleasure of seeing and hearing many old professional friends who had obtained leave from camp to attend, these including Mr. Eli Hudson, O.T.C., Lieut. Lawrence Anderson (nephew of Miss Mary Anderson), and Lieut. Neale. Mr. Harry May Hemsley appeared with his remarkable ventriloquist film, "Les Enfants Prodiges," and it is justly claimed by him that the film is played by "a clever group of the youngest artistes ever assembled in a cinema production." The film sketch is certainly the biggest novelty that has been seen for some time.

The concert started at 2.30 p.m., and at 10.30 it was still proceeding. Mr. Sexton must have worked very hard to have obtained the services of so many artistes. In



[Elliott and Fry, Ltd., 52, Baker-st., W.

MR. LUNDY.

Manager, West-End Cinema.

the words of congratulation, mention of Mr. Edward H. Lundy, under whose direction the concert was given, should not be omitted, for his work was of the most arduous nature.

Mr. H. Lawrence Harris has opened the Regent Agency at 122, Regent-street, W., with the object of supplying artistes to film producers. Mr. Harris's 25 years' experience of stage and film productions enables him to guarantee competent and experienced actors.

In consequence of the termination of his lease, Captain Beasley will withdraw his thrilling motion pictures from the Philharmonic Hall on May 26. As the pictures

have a highly educational value, Captain Beasley has decided to admit children at half-price after May 14.

Baroness D'Erlanger has lent her house, 139, Piccadilly, for a function, in aid of the Church Army Recreation Huts, this (Wednesday) afternoon, when Miss May Doney, author of "Songs of the Real," will give a reading, under the title of "An Hour Upon the Way of Wonder," from her own poems.

"MASK AND FACES" FILM MATINEES.

H.R.H. Princess Christian, accompanied by Princess Marie Louise, attended the Strand Cinema on Monday afternoon for the first performance of "Masks and Faces," when Miss Irene Vanbrugh personally introduced the film to the public. Among those present were Sir John and Lady Hare, Miss Gladys Cooper, Miss Lillian Braithwaite, Miss Lottie Venn, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mr. Dion Bonicaud, Mr. C. M. Lowe, and Mr. Ben Webster.

The performances are being given in aid of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild of Charity, and in introducing the film Miss Vanbrugh said: "A pleasant and to me quite a novel task is mine this afternoon, namely, to introduce to your notice a film—I think I may say a very special film—special from three separate points of view: first, on account of its cast, which I think you will agree is almost unique; secondly, because it is a remarkably fine production; and thirdly, because all the actors and actresses gave their services entirely free to the making of the film, which, when one realises the enormous amount of work a production like this involves, speaks volumes for their kindness and generosity."

"It seems to me peculiarly appropriate that a work like this, undertaken by these players with the object of building and equipping a theatre in connection with the Academy of Dramatic Art at 62, Gower-street, and permanently establishing there a school of English acting, should, after it has achieved that first and most important object, carry its good work into other channels—those of charity—also connected with the dramatic profession. This continuance, however, would not have been possible without the kind co-operation of the manager of this charming cinema, who is most generously giving me a percentage of his week's profits for the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, of which I am the president, and has himself headed a subscription list."

"I believe the actual thing that appealed to him so generously helping the Theatrical Ladies' Guild was that the film of 'Masks and Faces' was most extraordinarily appropriate to the work done by this charity. The outstanding feature of the story is the generosity of one may say, the dramatic profession, in the person of Peg Woffington, to poorer colleagues, so beautifully played by Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson and Miss Winifred Emery as Mr. and Mrs. Triplet. What Peg Woffington does in the play is our aim to do at the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, and that is to bring comfort, help, friendship, and clothing and food to those in need. So I want you this afternoon, while you are feeling pleased and interested—as I am sure you will be—in the beautiful production of this film, to put money into the boxes so that all the sad and needy cases that come under our notice may be helped by your warm-hearted generosity."

Mr. H. Claude Harris having obtained a commission in the Royal Navy, the Claude Harris Film Co. have suspended filming for the present.

The Newcastle Amateurs are this week presenting "The Mikado" and "Dorothy" at the Theatre Royal.

COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 11.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., May 16.

The Price of Silence and A Footlight Flame (Fox), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 16.

The Shine Girl (Thames), 167, Wardour-street, 2.30 p.m., May 16.

The Dance of Fire (Castle), West End Cinema, 11.30 a.m., May 16.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 17.

Rise of Susan (Gaumont), Awn Theatre, 2.30, May 15, 16, 17, 18.

The Enchantress and The Judge's Ward (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103, Wardour-street, 3 p.m., May 18.

Fate's Cross Roads and Dodging His Doom (Triangle), Electric Pavilion, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., 3 p.m., May 18.

Bondage of Fear (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30, May 22, 23, 24, 25.

The Love Thief and The Film Spoilers (Fox), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 23.

BELFAST.

Ultus, No. 4 (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.15 a.m., May 23.

Dross and Mysterious Mrs. M. (Phillips), Octagon, High-street, May 25.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Panopticon, 11 a.m., June 5.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Panopticon, 11 a.m., June 12.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Panopticon, 11 a.m., June 19.

BIRMINGHAM.

Her Soul's Inspiration (Eureka Exclusive), Scala, 11 a.m., May 16.

Love in the West and Her Fame and Shame (Triangle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., May 18; 3.30 p.m., 6.30 p.m., May 20.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), 303, Broad-street, 3 p.m., May 20 and 21.

A Child of the Wild and There's Many a Fool (Fox), Scala Theatre, 11 a.m., May 22.

The Rise of Susan (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., May 22.

CARDIFF.

Melting Millions and His Merry Mix Up (Fox), The Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 22.

Ultus, No. 4 (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., May 22.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), Olympia, Cardiff, 11 a.m., May 25.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), at our new offices at 8, Pembroke-terrace, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., May 25.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), at our new offices at 8, Pembroke-terrace, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., June 1.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), at our new offices at 8, Pembroke-terrace, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., June 8.

DUBLIN.

America Awakes (Express Film Agency), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., May 15.

Dross and Mysterious Mrs. M. (Phillips), Sackville Cinema, Sackville-street, May 22.

Ultus, No. 4 (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 a.m., May 22.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 5.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 13.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 20.

GLASGOW.

The Man Who Failed and The Wooing of Peggy (Pathé), Cranston's, Renfield-street, 11 a.m., May 16.

World Films (Gaumont), Gaumont's, Mitchell-street, 11 and 2.30, May 16.

BRITISH EMPIRE FILM BOUGHT ENSURE FORTUNES.

Write to 7, Great Newport Street, London, England, W., For details of Latest Productions, which include many well-known Theatrical Successes.

The Rise of Susan (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., May 14.

The Missing Bank Notes and Her Circus Knight (Triangle), 182, Tringate, 3 p.m., May 18.

The Price of Silence and A Footlight Flame (Fox), The Cinema, 11 a.m., May 21.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), La Scala, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., May 22.

The Bondage of Fear (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., May 23.

The Enchantress and The Judge's Ward (Pathé), Cranston's Picture House, 11 a.m., May 23.

Silver Wolf and Comedies (St. Mungo), Cranston's, Renfield-street, 11 a.m., May 25.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), King's Theatre, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., May 25.

The Grit of a Jew (Page Film Co.), Picture House, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., May 31.

LEEDS.

All the World's a Stage (Consolidated Films), Picture House, 10.30 a.m., May 16.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), The Coliseum, 11 a.m., May 16 and 17.

A Child of the Wild and There's Many a Fool (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., May 17.

The Boy-Girl (Phillips), Picture House, Briggate, 11 a.m., May 18.

Atta Boy's Last Race and Safety First Ambrose (Triangle), Bond-place-chambers, 11 a.m., 2.30 p.m., May 18.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Theatre de Luxe, Kirkgate, 11 a.m., May 22.

Ultus, No. 4 (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., May 22.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Theatre de Luxe, Kirkgate, 11 a.m., May 29.

LIVERPOOL.

Phantom Buccaneer (Film Booking Offices), City Picture House, 10.45 a.m., May 16.

Love in the West and Her Fame and Shame (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, May 16.

Ultus No. 4 (Gaumont), Scala, 11.30 a.m., May 17.

The Enchantress and The Judge's Ward (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day, May 15 and 18.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Palais de Luxe Cinema, Lime-street, 11 a.m., May 22.

The Price of Silence and A Footlight Flame, Super Cinema, 11 a.m., May 22.

The Boy-Girl (Phillips), City Picture House, Lime-street, 11 a.m., May 23.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), 34, Paradise-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., May 22 and 23.

The Social Secretary and The Old Folks at Home (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, May 23.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Palais de Luxe Cinema, Lime-street, 11 a.m., May 29.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Palais de Luxe Cinema, Lime-street, 11 a.m., June 5.

MANCHESTER.

The Boy-Girl (Phillips), Deansgate Picture House, 11 a.m., May 15.

The Fatal Promise (Liverpool Cin. Feature), 26, Fennel-street, 3 p.m., May 16.

The Enchantress and The Judge's Ward (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day, May 16 and 17.

Love in the West and Her Fame and Shame (Triangle), Triangle House, St.

Mary's-street, Deansgate, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., May 15, 17.

The Price of Silence and A Footlight Flame (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 and 2.30, May 17 and 18.

Phantom Buccaneer, &c. (Film Booking Offices), Grosvenor, 10.45 a.m., May 18.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), Galford Cinema, Salford, 2.30 p.m., May 20.

Ultus, No. 4 (Gaumont), Oxford-street Picture House, 11 a.m., May 22.

NEWCASTLE.

Melting Millions and His Merry Mix Up (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., May 16.

Pearl of the Army (Pathé), Queen's Theatre, 11 a.m., May 18.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Empire Cinema, Grainger-street, 10.30 a.m., May 18.

The Wolf Woman and A Sister of Six (Triangle), Star-buildings, 11 a.m., May 16, 17 and 20.

The Rise of Susan (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., May 22.

A Child of the Wild and There's Many a Fool (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., May 23.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Empire Cinema, Grainger-street, 10.30 a.m., May 25.

The Boy-Girl (Phillips), Queen's Hall, Northumberland-street, 11.30, May 29.

NOTTINGHAM.

The Winning of Sally Temple (Greta), Scala, 11 a.m., May 16.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Goldsmith-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., May 18.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Goldsmith-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., May 23.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Goldsmith-street Picture Palace, 11.15 a.m., June 1.

SHEFFIELD.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., May 16.

Atta Boy's Last Race and Safety First Ambrose (Triangle), Electra Palace, Fitzalan-square, 10.45 a.m., May 16.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., May 23.

Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Union-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., May 30.

SWANSEA.

The Truth About Helen (Jury), Carlton Theatre, 11 a.m., May 16.

New T.M., Edmonton.

Mr. Chas. West, who manages the New Theatre Royal, Edmonton, is an old professional, and many "Era" readers will remember him well as a comedian. He worked the Britannia Pier, Yarmouth, for six seasons under J. W. Dunn's management, managed for George Davis at Whitby, and also has been stage manager at the Pier Pavilion, Southend. Mr. West has now been at Edmonton two years, and runs one programme nightly, about 16,000ft. He previously managed the Premier, Harringay, and ran the Gorseion Pavilion in partnership with the late Tom Carney. He is shortly screening "As Ye Repent," "Princess of the Blood," &c.

For film markings and other film news, see page 22.

A few QUESTIONS and ANSWERS supplied by

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

(Continued from p. 10.)

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDEN.—M. E. A. Brown, Daily concerts by the Devonshire Park Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Norfolk Megone; vocalist: Mr. Arnold Stoker, baritone. Special concert on Saturday night by Madame Clara Butt and party.

VAUDEVILLE PAVILION.—Charivari concert artists. Boats, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH. **ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.**—M. D. Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Munro, A. M. Mr. P. L. Howat; Mrs. D. Mr. E. J. Rogers. Mr. Horace Hodges is presenting "Grumpy" with Mr. Hodges in the title-role. His portrayal of the old lawyer remains an admirable piece of character acting. Miss Alice Bowes is a charming Virginia Bullivant; Mr. Royce Milton shows genuine ability as Mr. Ernest Heron; and, in a capital all-round cast, clever sketches of character are given by Mr. E. Howard-Templeton as Rudolph, Mr. George A. Brandram as Mr. Jarvis, and Miss Beatrice Egerton as Mrs. M'Laren.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. Edinburgh Varieties, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M. Mr. Tom Bolan. "Fads and Fancies," played by Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, a company, is the main attraction here. A Wheeler, the popular Hebrew comedian, has the lion's share of the work, and he is supported by a bright company, including A. Alexander, Esme Carles, Rose Murray, Reg Fields, Jack Graham, Ray Desmond, and Cecilia Taylor. Napoli, the Italian street violinist, and Jack in the Box Troupe of Dancers, impart further liveliness to the programme.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. King's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Edmond Page; Mrs. D. Mr. Frank Allen; M. Mr. Herbert Jay's company is here with the merry musical comedy, "Fris and Drills." The company is headed by that genuinely amusing comedian, Mr. George Gregory, who is associated with several clever artists, including Loma Della, Betty Howes, Nora Nevill, Nora O'Malley, Nellie Dade, Lawrence Caird and Douglas MacLaren. Elsa Cameron, Scottish contralto; Salvano, a smart brick cyclist; and Stenley, an ardent rag-time violinist, also contribute agreeable turns.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P. Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; R. M. Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mrs. D. Mr. James Howard. The leading position in this week's bill is allotted to a new musical burlesque, entitled "Introduce Me," in which the popular coloured comedian Harry Scott, Molly Drew, Clifford Barclay, Harry Bailey, Len Gilroy, and other artists find opportunities of providing enjoyable entertainment. Apart from the revue, Irene May charms her hearers with songs from a choice repertory; Ben Albert is amusing as a "dry old sick"; Belle Adams and her Cracker Jacks indulge in sundry southern pastimes; and great interest attaches to the latest war films.

GLOUCESTER. **HIPPODROME.**—P. The Gloucester Hippodrome Co.; G. M. Mr. Oakley Brough. Madge Nelson and her "Ruffles"; Victoria; Kicco; Live'y Lil Auton; Harry Blake; Fred Solo and Co. Boats, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-street; 94 and 95, Northgate-street.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M. Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright. "The Unity Revue" Company present "Rachies." The company includes Lindsay and Harte. May Graham, Dan Young, Doris Mason, Doreen Lyndon, James Stewart, Archie Balfour,

James Nelson, and the Four Drummer Girls. Boats, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-road.

HANLEY. **GRAND.**—P. Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Mrs. D. Mr. Chas. G. Bingham; M. Mr. Albert Palmer. Wee Georgie Wood and company in "The Dummy; or, Some Detective," provide the bill. Also appearing is Beryl Clifford, South African entertainer. Boats, The Chemists, 24 and 26, Piccadilly.

KASTINGS. **GAITY THEATRE.**—M. Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M. Mr. C. E. Scott; Mrs. D. Mr. Thos. Hilton. Mr. Walter Howard's company in "Seven Days Leave."

PIER PAVILION.—M. Mr. Chas. Hawker. Mr. Harry Benet's concert party, "The Dreamers."

BOATS, The Chemists, 17, 18, 19, Robertson-street; 51, George-street. **HUDDERSFIELD.** **THEATRE ROYAL.**—P. Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; B. M. Mr. Fred Benton. Mr. Forbes Russell presents "All of a Sudden Peggy."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. The Northern Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. Mr. S. Winks. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Vaughan's company in "The Little Grey Home in the West."

PALACE.—P. The Macnaughten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M. Mr. Herbert Garfield; Jean Schuler, Anglo-Russian 'celist; Miss Julie Dolan and company, in a musical phantasy, entitled "The Dream Picture"; Albert Weston and Miss Nellie Lynch, in comedy; Ellis and Carlton, singers and dancers; Miss Kitty Osmond, at the piano; Thornley Dodge, in stories and sketches; Sinclair Neill and company, in playlet, "The Touch of a Child"; and pictures. Boats, The Chemists, 18, King-street.

HULL. **PALACE.**—P. Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; M. Mr. John S. Barnett. Albert De Courville's revue, "Razzle-Dazzle."

TIVOLI.—L. Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Harry Slingsby; G. M. Mr. George W. Ashton. Lew Lake presents "They Didn't Want to Do It."

BOATS, The Chemists, 10 and 12, King Edward-street. **LEEK.** **GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.**—P. The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. and G. M. Mr. Allan Milton; R. M. Mr. J. W. Malpass. "The Broken Melody" and other films.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P. Mr. Sampson Salt; L. and G. M. Mr. Allan Milton; R. M. Mr. J. W. Malpass. Pictures and Boats, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-street, and Sheep Market-street.

LEICESTER. **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.**—Sole P. & M. Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M. Mr. P. Allerton Turner. Mr. John S. Lawrence Brough and his excellent company, including Miss Olga Ene, are here in the farcical comedy, "The Lady of Oseid." The various characters are all portrayed in admirable style.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M. Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M. Mr. P. Allerton Turner; A. M. Mr. George F. Warwick. The drama, "His Sister's Honour," is being presented here by Mr. Frank H. Fortescue's capital company, with Miss Jennie Hayden appearing with success as Dora Stanley. The various other characters are also well portrayed.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D. Mr. Oswald Skell; A. M. Mr. Trueman Towers. Asst. A. M. Mr. Thomas J. Phillips. The well-known film comedian, Pimpie, assisted by Joe Evans, creates interest and applause here in the sketch "Father." Miss Amy Evans, prima donna, makes a deserved hit

in her finely rendered selections; Jay Whidden, American rag-time violinist, is popular; and Alcide Capitaine gives a smart gymnastic display. Jazon and Montgomery present with success an octet of vocalists and dancers in "Reverend"; and Joe and Betty Bina are welcomed in a capital comedy and musical act. Neil Gow, Scotch comedian, also appears in an entertaining turn, and pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P. The Macnaughten Vaudeville Circuit; B. M. Mr. Joseph Lawrence. Revue again takes the form of entertainment here, the attraction being Jimmy Wood's "Blighty," with Jimmy Wood taking the chief parts of Timothy Turtle. Miss Dorothy Hope Browne also appears with success as Doris Dove. Others in the cast include the Misses Winnie Usher, Blanche Cutler, Flossie Smith, and Messrs. Lawrence Russell, Eddie Oliver, and Fred Evans. Mabel Morris, entertaining sourette, and The Bevans, in "Cinema Crazy," are the other artists who appear.

BOATS, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street; 52, Westgate-street. **LEITH.** **ALHAMBRA THEATRE.**—G. M. Mr. Henry Lees; A. M. Mr. J. Cousins; Mrs. D. Mr. J. D. Miller. In an all-women programme, John Tiller presents the Twelve Manchester Mites, in a pleasing singing and dancing scene; the Four Blighty Girls appear to advantage in a bright comedy act; Penman's Four Nibs give a smart acrobatic display; Lily Lyle makes good as a new juvenile star; the Roseville Girls perform cleverly in an American sporting item; La Magda is seen in various artistic poses; and official war films of the London Street in action arouse considerable interest.

MARGATE. **HIPPODROME.**—P. The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M. Mr. James Mayall. Messrs. Delome and Neill present "Tally Ho!"

NEW BRIGHTON. **TIVOLI.**—D. Mr. Fred Willmot; G. M. Mr. F. V. Ross. The Balalaika Orchestra and the Russian character ballet, introducing Mons. Fedia Stepanoff, whirlwind dancer, are the principal attractions here. Other turns by Dorothy Dagmar, Three Waltons, Four Gerbolas, Tom Franks, Lowther and Lady, also pictures.

NEWPORT. **EMPIRE.**—P. Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; A. M. Mr. J. H. Milburn. George Formby; Vera Woodton; Martini Trio; Da'mere's Table Circus; Victor and George; Molly Wells and Frank Mayban. Boats, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-street.

NORTH SHIELDS. **THEATRE ROYAL.**—L. and M. Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M. Mr. Horace Lee. The revue, "Coloured Society." **BORO' THEATRE.**—P. and M. Messrs. Black Brothers; R. M. Mr. Phil Rabey. The Caron Troupe, lady gymnasts; May Locke, comedienne and dancer; Ted Jackson, dancing entertainer; and pictures. Boats, The Chemists, 15-17, South-street.

OXFORD. **NEW THEATRE.**—P. The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S. Mr. S. C. Dorrell; Asst. M. Mr. W. F. Smith. An interesting and attractive programme is provided this week by Messrs. Murray King and Charles Clark's company in "Romance." The leading roles are in the hands of Miss Violet Farebrother, who creates a great impression as Cavallini; Mr. Frank Lacy, who is a great success as Cornelius Van Tuyl; and Mr. Frank Freeman, with a powerful portrayal of Thomas Armstrong. Other members of the male cast, including Mr. F. Lock Whittaker, Mr. Charles Lever, Mr. Norman Clark, &c., all do well. Highly successful also are

Miss Margaret Coyne, Miss Harriet Pollini, Miss Estelle Despa, Miss Nita Lacy, Miss Vera Gray, Miss France Fairleigh, and Miss Fairclough.

PRESTON. **EMPIRE THEATRE.**—P. Preston Empire & Hotel Co.; M. D. Mr. Edwin Bush. Starting engagement of Gertie Gilman, "Franco" variety artist; Bert Castle, comedian; Alice Hughes and company in sketch, including Frank Luren and James Curry; Stanley Carr, comedian; Clifton & Daisy, the one-wheel wonders; Regard and Madge Brownie, Ragtime.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M. Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton. Harry Foxwell presents "Keep the Home Fires Burning." Boats, The Chemists, 27, Fishergate.

READING. **PALACE.**—P. The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. W. T. Simmons; M. Mrs. M. A. Simmons; Mrs. D. Mr. W. Buckler. The Elliott Savonias; Johnny Dwyer; Mabel Costello; James Stewart and Vera Vere in "Some Office Boy"; Hall and Turn; David Fuller; Vera Caine; Alfred Wellesley and company in "Uncle's Courtship." **ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.**—P. & M. Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton. Harry Foxwell presents "Keep the Home Fires Burning." Boats, The Chemists, 21, Broad-st.; and 2, Duke-st.

ROCHDALE. **HIPPODROME.**—P. Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; R. M. Mr. J. Jackson, senr. A capital programme includes the Diving Belles; Three Prodiges, juvenile musicians; Ragolio, in rag picture studies; Dolly Ross, comedienne; and Bridson, ventriloquist; also the sketch, "The Widow Who Would," by J. J. Will's company; and war film.

EMPIRE.—P. Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; R. M. Mr. Albert Jones. Frederica's Comedy Terriers; "Dreams of the East," musical act; Violet Bryce; D. Gladwin and Dot Dyas; and pictures.

PALACE.—P. Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M. Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M. Mr. Norman M. Robinson. Lodge Percy and Henrietta Schrier's company in "The Heart of a Shop Girl." Boats, The Chemists, 42, Drake-street; 59-61, Yorkshire-street.

RUGBY. **PALACE.**—P. Phoenix Theatres, Ltd.; R. M. Miss F. M. Francis; Mrs. D. Mr. H. Salisbury. An excellent variety programme is provided by the appearance of Harry Lacey, comedian; the Five Jukes, in a dancing and singing act; and Irene Rose, humoriste; the programme is completed by excellent pictures.

EMPIRE.—P. & M. Mr. B. Morris; Asst. M. Mr. Digby; Mrs. D. Mr. Thompson. "Tom Brown's Schooldays," and other pictures. Boats, The Chemists, High-st.

SALFORD. **REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.**—M. D. Mr. W. Turner; G. M. Mr. Alan D. Dunbar. Franco Piper, banjo soloist; Tom E. Finglass, cowboy song, assisted by Miss Gay Perce; Rosemary Lee; Barlow and Brookes, comedy vocal act; Reg. Faze and Page, comedy juggler and cartoonist; Master George Darwen, clever boy musician; Mlle. Sonia Taracoma, vocalist; Agia and company, in "The

Lady of the Future"; Florence Yaxmen, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P. Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead & Son; R. A. M. Mr. Fred Dry. Henry L. Osmond presents Johnny McIlroy and company, in "Miss Lamb of Castles of Revue."

SCARBOROUGH. **GRAND OPERA HOUSE.**—M. D. Mr. W. Peacock; M. Mr. G. H. Hawkins. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Seymour Hodges and Gordon Beattie's company present "Potash and Perlmutter." Thursday, Friday, Saturday, seventy clever Scarborough children, in a fairy play, "The White Rose and the Red." Written and produced by Mrs. W. E. Walker and Mr. F. J. Pickup, in aid of the National Reserve Band Fund. Boats, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-street, and 18, Newborough; Pump Room, The Spa.

SEACOMBE. **SCALA.**—L. The New Apollo Syndicate, G. T. Howard (American); G. M. Mr. John Gaffney; A. M. Mr. C. H. Hankinson. Mr. Norman presents Phil Herman in "Not in These." The cast also includes George King, Neil McNeil, and the Miquora troupe of dancers.

SHEFFIELD. **LYCEUM THEATRE.**—M. D. Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T. Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont. "The Silver King" still holds its grip on the Sheffield public, and the Lyceum was crowded on Monday with a keenly interested audience. The mounting was first-rate, and the company was under the direction of Mr. C. W. Somerset (a local favourite).

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D. Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T. Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M. Mr. M. Mahony. Mr. E. Hill Mitchellson and an excellent company are doing good business in the sensational drama, "Ruth, Convict 22."

EMPIRE.—P. and L. The Empire, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; A. M. Mr. L. M. Stewart. "Follow the Flag," a patriotic spectacular revue produced by Mr. W. J. Wilson, is a success here this week. In addition to a large chorus, good work is done by a smart company, including Walter Passmore, Maudie Francis, Rosie Reys, Grace Gordon, &c.

HIPPODROME.—P. and L. The Hippodrome, Ltd.; G. M. Mr. W. Parham Wells. A good all-round company here comprises Arthur Boucher and company, in "The Fourth of August"; Josie Delaine, vocalist and dancer; Charles Sherwin, Irish comedian; Cornelia and Eddie, in a whimsical act; Payne and Hilliard, clever and original impersonators; Great Maurice, card conjurer.

OXFORD.—P. and L. The Oxford, Ltd.; G. M. Mr. C. W. Ramsay. The historical play, "Mary Stuart," realistic films and comics are drawing big houses. Boats, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snigge hill; 252-54, West-street, and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 35, Spittal-hill; 284, Shalesmoor; 133, Attercliffe-addition; 760-24, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 24, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road; Heeley-bridge; 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Stanforth-road; Barnall; 129, Newbouldine, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SHERWSBURY. **ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.**—P. Mrs. Bates Maddison; G. M. Mr. Bates Maddison. The military comedy-farce, "Beauchamp and Beauchamp," is presented here by Mr. Haldane Crichton's excellent company. "Ann" was the change billed for Friday.

STOCKPORT. **THEATRE ROYAL.**—Sole O. and M. Mr. Charles Revill; A. M. Mr. Wm. Revill. Mr. Frank Fenton and company, in

"His House in Order." Cast includes Messrs. Ernest Dare, Percy Hubbard, Wylie A. Thompson, Thomas E. Marshall, M. Lowe-Dare, Misses Mabel Crisp, Elsie Shelton, Mabel Constance, and Gwendolyn Carlisle.

STROUD. **EMPIRE.**—P. The Glos. Hippo. Co.; G. M. Mr. Oldbury Brough. Three Dancing Vivienne; Louie Bosworth; and pictures. Boats, The Chemists, 23, Russell-street.

TORQUAY. **THEATRE ROYAL.**—Licencee and M. D. Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S. Mr. Arthur Pearce. The burlesque revue, "Hold Tight," with Mr. A. E. Burtie as lead, is the attraction here.

PAVILION.—G. M. (for the Corporation) Mr. Charles G. Price. On Monday Mr. Mark Hambourg paid a welcome return visit here. Throughout the week Miss Phyllis Chadney (contralto) is the vocalist.

BOATS, The Chemists, 46, 48, Fleet-street. **WAKEFIELD.** **OPERA HOUSE.**—Mr. Evelyn A'Dell presents "Her Forbidden Sacrifice."

EMPIRE.—John Tiller's production, "100 Years Ago"; Frank Cummings; J. Alexander's 9 Empire Opera Singers.

PLAYHOUSE.—M. D. Mr. Sidney Tol-free. Messrs. W. Bonwell, R. Wingfield, and Harry Melody present "A Happy Razzle."

BOATS, The Chemists, 3, Market-place. **WEST HARTLEPOOL.** **EMPIRE.**—P. The West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M. Mr. Harry Esden; R. M. Mr. Bert Proud; Mrs. C. Mr. Horace Marshall. Mr. Harry Day presents "Keep to the Right," especially featuring Jimmy Learmouth, Lily Moore, Kitty Lynn, John Rorke, Len Kilroy, Ruby Ralland, Chas. Childerstone, and Gladys Loman.

PALACE.—P. Bros. Black; M. Mr. J. D. Robertson. The Nord Maitre Singers, in musical scenes, and Kitty Clare, with concertina, song and dance, are the varieties provided for the week.

BOATS, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street. **WEYMOUTH.** **PAVILION THEATRE.**—Lessee, Mr. B. Wheeler. Mr. Vivian Grantham's company in "Jerry."

BOATS, The Chemists, 69-70, St. Mary-street. **WOLVERHAMPTON.** **GRAND THEATRE.**—Sole L. & M. Mr. E. H. Bull; Mrs. D. Mr. Arthur Jackson. Mr. Frank Weatherby presents "What Happened to Jones," with Mr. Leonard Robson as Jones.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. Kimberleys, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. Mr. Edwin T. Kibbey; Mrs. D. Mr. Harry Bradley. Miss Eva Elwes' company in "The Cottage Girl" is the attraction here.

EMPIRE.—Sole L. Mr. Walter de Frece; M. Mr. J. H. Hyslop; Mrs. D. Mr. Walter Scott. Ella Reford, in new songs, impressions, and dances. Also appearing are Fred Karno's company in "Manning Birds"; Ernie Garner, comedian; Hearne and Partner, eccentrics; and Lily Flexmore, eccentric dancer.

BOATS, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel-ash. **YORK.** **THEATRE ROYAL.**—L. & M. Mr. Percy Hutchison; G. M. Mr. Wallace Stranack. Mr. Bromley Challenor, Miss Marjorie Bellairs and company in "When Knights Were Bold."

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—M. D. Mr. William Peacock. Miss Edna Latonne; The Piccadillians; Miss Hendreka; assisted by Van Assche; The Two Wans; Jock and George Preston; Ernest K. Nelson and Millicent Maynard in "A Lane Excuse"; Walter Steele and Lilian Ross in "The Girl from Lancashire"; Conway and Leyland the merry monodies.

BOATS, The Chemists, 30, Concy-street.

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PAVILION STUDIOS COMPANY.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. W. A. FENNING, PROPRIETOR.

Catching Mr. Fenning at his studios in Wardour-street, we elicited from him his reason for striking out in this new branch of the business. He informed us that, having had many years' experience in the renting and exhibiting side of the business—in fact, he can claim to be one of the pioneers of the industry—he considered he was capable of judging what was required of and by an artist, and feeling convinced that there is bound to be a boom in the producing of British films, decided to devote his time and attention to the training of artists.

"There is," he continued, "a great deal of undiscovered talent amongst the English people, but those who have commenced to train have very rarely been trained in what I consider the correct manner. Upon thinking the matter over, it appeared to be an impossibility to train an artist for

use any artist trained by me; and if, as I sincerely believe, there is a great future for film artists, I am hoping that in a short time the Pavilion Cinema Studios will be the recognised school for all producers in this country to recruit their artists from. There is also the possibility that after the war we may be able to exchange artists with producers of other countries."

"THE HOUSE OF LIES."

AN UNUSUAL STORY OF SOCIETY LIFE, WITH MANY BEAUTIFUL SETTINGS.

Star.....Edna Goodrich
Type.....Drama
Length.....Five Reels
Distributors.....Jury's
Screened at the New Gallery Cinema on Wednesday morning, "The House of Lies," with its many delightful settings and fine lighting effects, proved a very engrossing picture. Edna Coleman, a beautiful girl with a beautiful nature, disfigures herself by pouring prussic acid on her cheek rather than to be sold to the highest bidder. In this manner she escapes meeting Marcus, a wealthy poet and dramatist, whom it is her scheming stepmother's ambition she shall wed. Her obnoxious stepister, Dorothy, inveigles the poet into a compromising situation at a house party given by him, and the mother immediately announces the engagement of the pair to

all the guests. The girl is then persuaded to steal the key of her father's strong box, in order that she and her mother may annex a note which the latter has promised to obtain for a theatrical manager named Haynes, to whom they are indebted. Edna, who has obtained a post as secretary to Marcus through the kindness of a benevolent old doctor, appears on the scene as the theft is being consummated and starts to raise an alarm, but her stepmother dissembles her, saying that it will not only wreck her sister's chances, but also the happiness of the poet. Edna thereupon confesses to the crime, but the poet soon proves that he knows the real facts, and there is happiness at last for Edna, whom it is discovered is not disgraced, but had conspired with the doctor to paint a scar on her face. Miss Edna Goodrich gives a very charming portrayal of Edna, and all the other parts are well played.

[See our Film Markings.]

Mr. Wilfrid Healey, managing director of High Level Exclusives, Ltd., of 33, Westgate-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, held a trade show at the Grey-street Picture Palace recently of "Dereckle," featuring Julian Royce and Violet Graham. Two Hepworth comedies, "Lollipops and Posies" and "The Countess of Summerville," were also screened, and all were very favourably received. Good bookings are reported. This enterprising firm secures many winners.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of readers who do not file our Markings and require to refer to back ones, a complete list is kept at the office and a copy of any issue required will be forwarded on receipt of three panny stamps.

Reference No.		6-10.	
Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description. Length. Marks.
June 21	Potato and Wheat Culture	Urban	Interest 410 7
June 25	Big Bluffs and Bowling Balls	Vitaphone	Comedy 1080 6
June 28	Capt. Jinks's Cure	Vitaphone	Comedy 965 6
June 28	Capt. Barnacle and the Lover	Vitaphone	Comedy 946 6
July 2	Knock	Joker	Comedy 955 6
July 2	Barred from the Bar	Rex	Interest 405 7
July 2	Punjab Railway up the Nile	Laemmle	Drama 966 6
July 2	Is Money All?	Ham	Comedy 104 6
July 2	That Terrible Tenderfoot	Larkin	Drama 979 7
July 2	The House of Secrets	Highways	Interest 852 7
July 5	Famous Churches of England	Sestor	Comedy 105 6
July 5	One Thousand Miles an Hour	Victor	Comedy 930 6
July 5	It's Cheaper to be Married	Transatlantic	Interest 715 7
July 5	The Transatlantic Screen	Magazine	
July 5	Pass Key No. 2	Joker	Comedy 1005 6
July 5	America's Army	Kinetico	Interest 520 7
July 5	The Linesman's Peril	Helen Series	Drama 905 7
July 5	In Red Dog Town	A.B.	Comedy 465 6
July 5	Padua	Highways	Interest 460 7
EXCLUSIVES.			
July 9	Spike's Buzzy Bike	L.K.O.	Comedy 2 reels 7 1/2
August 27	Uhus Mystery of the Three Buttons	Gaumont	Drama 5 reels 8 1/2
Sept. 10	The Grand Duke's Abduction	Vitaphone	Drama 5 reels 7
Not known	The Ruling Passion	Ideal	Drama 4 reels 8
Not known	Child of Nature	Ideal	Comedy 4 reels 7 1/2
Not known	Magic Money	Vitaphone	Drama 5 reels 8 1/2
Not known	The Grey Mask	Thanhouser	Drama 4 reels 8
Not known	The House of Lies	Jury's	Drama 5 reels 7 1/2
Not known	The Marked Man	Jury's	Comedy 2 reels 7 1/2
Not known	A Child of the Wild	Fox	Drama 5 reels 7 1/2
Not known	There's Many a Fool	Fox	Comedy 3 reels 7 1/2



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PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BARNESLEY.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P. Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Wm. Smithson; J. W. Daynes presents the musical burlesque, "Dobbe or Quits," with Jack Grogan as Spleen.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P. Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; G. M. Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. E. Ford-Howes, supported by Miss Gladys Adams, presented the local season this week with "The Two Orpheuses."

ALHAMBRA.—P. The Alhambra (Barnsley), Ltd.; G. M. Mr. C. H. Collison.—Capital variety by Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Marcel de Vere, violinist and trick cyclist; Annie Miller, comedy comedian; Florrie Gallimore, chorus comedienne; Harry Mallane, whistler and dancer; La Petite Olivette, singer; Mike Chevalier, comedienne; and Capt. Reigo, pianist and rascally.

PAVILION.—P. Mr. C. P. Metcalfe; M. Mr. W. West.—Morris Fluke's company, in "Moonlight," and Fred Hunt, comedian. Pictures complete.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. The Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Tom H. Davies and Philip Rodway; M. D. Mr. H. Rushworth.—"Tiger's Cub" is here, and the company organised by Charles Taylor and Sam Livey in the Sheriff, Messrs. Gill, Edna Mayday, Henry Scott, Miss Ethel Edwards, and Miss Bessie Hewitt (as the Cub).

PRINCE OF WALES.—P. Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D. Messrs. J. P. Graham and John Hart; M. Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Sir Thomas Beecham is here again with his opera company, the engagement being for two weeks. The round of distinguished work set down for presentation includes most of those which have gained so much in popular estimation by the artists with which the Beecham performances are invested. Their interpretation forms a part of that ambitious project which Sir Thomas is leading in Birmingham with the purpose of re-animating and elevating musical culture throughout the Midlands. Significant plans are now being made of high-class promenade concerts at the Prince of Wales Theatre to be one of the first fruits of the establishment of a permanent orchestra.

ALEXANDRIA.—P. M. Mr. Leon Sabberg, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Wm. H. Lock, who is responsible for the production, has associated with him in the playing Messrs. C. Elton Morgan, William Vase, Leslie Lingham, Frank Preston, Misses G. P. Norman, Lilian Ives, Madge Holt, and Clara O'Sullivan.

BORDELEY PALACE.—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M. Mr. Harry C. Thuburn.—"In 'Somewhere a Heart is Breaking,' which fills the bill here, we see, despite its title, a soldier playwright making war on pessimism. The company is headed by Miss Winifred Maude, and includes, in addition, Misses Agnes Cagan, Winnie Crichton, and Sara Normanton. Messrs. Victor du Cal, Will White, William Hayward, Hal Welles, and Leslie Maxwell.

GLASGOW.—P. M. Mr. Percy Whitton.—In addition to Fred Karno's revue, "E. & S.," in which the frolics of Will Hindson, Maurice Vera, Archie Graham, and Emily Stevens, cause great diversion. There is the fantastic absurdity with which Mazur and Mazetto are so irresistible, together with the dainty performances of Mary Law on the violin, and the quaint follies of J. G. Taylor, and Edith Hobbs as Kitty, Ella and Amy. Mr. W. H. Hebdon—Carl Myeto, with his magic crucible, heads the bill at the Gaiety. The striking musical act of Rondelle and Florence Royat is another leading feature in a programme which also includes Tom Welly, Rhode and Roche, &c.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P. Aston Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; A. M. Mr. J. F. Coward.—The sprightly musical burlesque, "Simple Life," in which Mabel Evelyn, Bloss Taylor, Harry Wright, and Harry Richards are successful laughter-makers. A feature of the programme, Veda Le Court, Lilian and Gracie, and Lewis and Lansky, complete a good evening's entertainment.

KING'S LTD.—M. D. Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. G. T. Minshall; B. M. Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—The principal attraction here is Lady Considine, Miss Rich, and Miss Marion Winkfield plays the part of Josephine in an adroit and manner. They are supported by a strong company.

METROPOLE LTD.—M. D. Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M. Mr. Amund Mascar.—Mr. Frederic Baugh and Miss Joyce Carleton, in "The domestic drama, 'His Second Wife.'"

COLISEUM.—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; R. M. Mr. Gordon Jefferson.—The outstanding attraction is the musical farce, "Bubble and Squeak," presented by George Carney who is one of a strong cast. Other notable turns include the McNaughtons; Harry Herbert, comedian; Herbert La Martine, in his original dance; Dorowami, violinist; and the Bioscope.

OLYMPIA.—L. Artists Agency, Ltd.; A. M. Mr. David Bowles and her company are here in the musical burlesque, "Hullo Bubbles." In the title part of Bubbles, Lola Charm displays versatile talent, and is cleverly supported by Eva Venson, Maude Farrell, Chorley and Conner, and George Hirst. In the variety part of the programme the amusing Lancashire sketch, "Bill's Bounty," is contributed by Claremont and Maude Gaskell; and other pleasing items are Tom Jack, socialist comedian; and Audrey Cooper, vocalist.

EMPIRE LTD.—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M. Mr. W. Mowbray Harle.—The first visit of the revue, "Three Cheers," played by Mr. Harry Day's company, attracted good houses on Monday. In Harry Landers' part, Harry Merryfees is excellent, and clever performances are given by Jimmie Leslie and Aleck Lauder, Misses Kitty Curtis, Daisy Bingley, and Peggy Yeoman. The Royal Kitty Lassies, in their bagpipe selections, add to the many attractions.

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PAVILION, LTD.—M. Mr. J. Kirkpatrick; M. D. Mr. Robert F. Steele.—The bill includes Miss Liane D'Vee, the clever Parisienne comedienne; James Mooney and Ida Hobson, in vaudeville; Page's Animated Dolls, in a topical revue; Miss Helen Kirk, vocalist; Reg. Wentworth, light comedian; Jack Cleverton, concertinist; Jean Joli, expert dancer; and Kittie Douglas, coubrette.

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HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M. Mr. Otto Culling.—Mr. Bernard Shaw's play, "Pygmalion," is making a return visit here. Mr. Chas. Macdonald has brought a strong company, including Charles Thursty as Professor Higgins and Florence Jackson as Eliza Doolittle.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Wm. Robinson; A. M. Mr. J. Hinton.—Messrs. Ravenscroft and Wright's company are appearing in the comedy-drama, "The Bride of the Battlefield."

THEATRE PALACE.—P. The Palace Theatre, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. E. O. Waller.—Well-versed programme is headed by Fred Curran, the popular comedian; David Poole, ventriloquist; Costa and George, in comedy bar act; and the Coenens, Indian equilibrista. "The Saiters" in military sketch; Bessie Butt, male impersonator; and Serva Dane, vocalist and specialty dancer, also appear.

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GRAND.—P. The Theatre and Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. John Hart; G. M. Mr. Wynn Miller; M. D. Mr. R. W. Watt.—Mr. Alfred Butt's company is here, with the delightful play, "Peg o' My Heart." Miss Cathleen MacCarthy makes a winsome Peg, and Jerry has an able representative in Gerald Fitzgerald.

ROYAL.—P. Mr. Francis Laidler; R. M. Mr. Charles Bash; M. D. Mr. Thos. A. Coomer.—Stephen Crossley's company, in "A Daughter of Devon" is here, with Miss Florence Hulton as Lily Brotherton.

QUEEN'S.—P. The Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; M. D. Mr. V. Garrod's company, in the romantic drama, "A Love Marriage," proving an attraction here, the cast including Miss Bertha Kingston.

EMPIRE.—P. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M. Mr. H. L. Roache; M. D. Mr. Lieutenants Parkin.—The chief item of interest in the play, "The Moment Before," a strong cast including Helen Millais as the Duchess, and Albert Ward as John. Other items are Jack Sterzel and his dog, "Lucky"; the Nine Bogansys, in "Fun in a Backhouse"; Bros. Harrow, juvenile gymnasts; Dainty Doris, in new numbers; and Willette Whitaker and Wilbur Hill in darky folk characterisations; and Harry Champion, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—R. M. Mr. Bertram J. Brown; M. D. Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—McDonald and Young's company is here in the musical comedy, "The Toreador." The cast includes Horace Mills as Sammy, Hannah Jones, and Olive Sloane.

CITY VARIETIES.—P. The Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; M. D. Mr. H. Holgate.—Gerald Cyril, the flying ventriloquist; Billy Riddle, in original creations; Alice Hayes, soprano; Will Vinton, novelty juggler; Bish and Bish, comedy mermaids; Ida Revell, dancing comedienne; and the Royal Ida Revell, dancing comedienne.

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MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. John Hart; A. M. Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Once more the Brandon Thomas company are here in the perennial laughter-maker, "Charley's Aunt," the title-part in which is filled on this occasion by Mr. Edward Neville, who acts with excellent comic effect, supported ably by Mr. H. Stanley Stephens and Mr. C. W. Pilkington.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P. The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. John Hart; A. M. Mr. George Lee.—That delightful comedy, "Quinneys," is the attraction here, presented by Mr. Frederick Harrison's company, under the direction of Mr. Eade Montefiore. The romance and charm of the story is well maintained by the cast, which is uniformly excellent, special successes being scored by Mr. Edward Irvine in the engaging character of Joe Quinney, and Miss Rosie Beggarie as Polly.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P. Miss A. E. F. Horniman; G. M. Mr. W. Roberts-Marsall; Stage Director, and Producer, Mr. Conings, Gordon.—This week the O'Mara Opera Season was opened on Monday with a performance of Halsey's "The Jewess," finely staged and admirably rendered both by the orchestra and the singers. Tuesday's production of "La Traviata" was distinguished by the same excellence of finish, and a well-selected repertoire for the remainder of the week should set the seal upon the unquestionable success attained during its stay by this popular combination.

NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P. Theatre Buildings, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. John Hart; A. M. Mr. E. Flanagan.—Emotional drama is the fare here, the play being "Sappho," with Miss Annie Bell in the title-role and Mr. Edwin Arliss as Uncle Cassius.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P. Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M. Mr. James Brearley.—The Great Raymond, entertainer and mystery man, is responsible for the major part of the attractions here. Cleverly aided by the Taylor Trio, acrobatic musical comedy cyclists; Gladys Wells, comedienne; and Lesby, patter comedian; and Nora Doone, comedienne and eccentric dancer.

KING'S.—P. Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton.—Mr. Raynor's company occupy the stage here another week in popular dramatic repertoire, with Miss Ennis Lawson as leading lady.

EDWICK EMPRE.—M. D. Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M. Mr. A. E. Duncan.—A big turn here is Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Bessie Bent, in "A Restaurant Episode." De Bussie appears with his piano-acrobatic and capital turns, are also given by Tom Clare; Halsey's Juveniles; Ian Colquhoun, vocalist; Montes and Welms; Edus and Forbes; and Fay Black.

PALACE.—M. D. Mr. Walter de Freese; G. M. Mr. Alan Young; S. Mr. Jesse Hewitt.—Harry Weldon, who was such a big success here in the last pantomime, is paying a welcome return visit; Evie Greene charms with selections from her repertoire; Malcolm Scott still "knows things" and, as usual, enlightens one in an entertaining manner; Wal Langtry is a capital comedian; Jack Lane, the York shire rustic at the piano, is good; and clever turns are added by the Hamamum Family, Japanese; Stowe Brothers, equilibrista; and Alice Craven, Lancashire dialect comedienne.

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—Sole P. Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M. Mr. Geo. Phillips.—"The Scamps" Herbert Barney and Wolsley; Charles' splendid company, featuring Connie Clive and Wilfred Lowe, are the attraction here.

HIPPODROME.—C. and M. D. Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M. Mr. George F. Reynolds; M. D. Mr. Alfred Haines.—Whit Unifille, the popular light comedian, is to the front here. Mr. Harry Day presents a brilliant musical burlesque, "Special Mixtures." The cast is exceptionally strong, and features Kitty Colyer, Harry Claff, and Mike Johnson. An augmented orchestra includes

Hughes Pollard, the trap dancer. Additional smart turns are those of Louise Hill, vocalist; and the Five Orpheas, acrobatic comedienne.

TIVOLI.—L. & P. Mr. J. Lever; G. M. Mr. Frank Ashworth; R. M. Mr. J. T. Malpas; Asst. M. Miss L. Stanley.—The Piccadilly Productions present "Falling in Love," and the company includes J. Proudford, Jack Warman, Heather Evans, Rita Lyall, Edna Clyde, Jack Batchelor, Mabel Stock, John Strong, and a pleasing Beauty Chorus.

HUMPHREY HIPPODROME.—P. Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M. Mr. H. Winstanley.—Watson's Enterprises, Ltd., present here, with success, the musical comedy, "Wish Me Luck," with specialities by those well-known artists the Wadsworths, George Dundas, Neddie Gallant; Anita de Courcy; Cissie Whitfield; the Six Melodians; and the Four Henriques.

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NEWCASTLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. M. D. Mr. Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M. Mr. T. Minshall; A. M. Mr. P. Teale Lingham.—The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society are in possession here this week, presenting "The Mikado" and "Dorothy."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P. Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; R. D. Mr. Richard Thornton; A. M. Mr. Jas. W. Kigour.—The revue, "As Irish as Ever," is delighting large audiences here. Entertaining vaudeville numbers are given by Alfredo, the vagabond violinist; Adam Tomkinson, the dialect comedian; and Lydia and Francis, French artistic and acrobatic dancers. On Thursday Miss Mary Anderson and her London company are paying a flying visit here in "Pygmalion," Gaiety and a crowded house is expected.

HIPPODROME.—L. Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Walter de Freese; G. M. Mr. W. H. Bebb.—The famous French clown, Grock, and his Partner, Sam Barton, are giving a special Scotch Kelly, comedian; The Joannys, in their latest invention, "Colour Shadows"; the Miles Staverdale Quintette; and the Three Bros. Hukler.

PAVILION.—L. Mr. J. Lever; G. M. Mr. Frank Ashworth; A. M. Mr. Bruce Gray.—The Six Dandy Mascots provide the star feature. Also here are Bryant and Bryans, with their electric act; Harry Balcon, musical act; Rolio, assisted by Mike Kego, the two-vocalist; and the dancing; Betty Browne, comedienne; Arthur Maynard, in "Study Economy"; Enrico Dolano, baritone; and Kitty Stewart and a piano.

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Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Company as booked.

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Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Irene Millar, Cooper Mitchell, Tucker.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Hayman and Franklin, Will Collinson and Co., Five Whiteleys, Dora Lyric.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Dalmer's Circus, Lillian Carter, Aerial Nelsons, Franco, Harry Champion.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Dalmer's Circus, Lillian Carter, Aerial Nelsons, Franco, Harry Champion.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Sisters Reeve, Evelyn Taylor, Ivor Vinton.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:— Davis Allen and Davies, Violet Rees, Harvey King.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Chas. Cohen, Deana, Doris Broughton.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Company as booked.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Belmore and Wells, Mafuzing Manohu Troupe, Adam Tomlinson, May Starr.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Vera Wootton, Vivian Foster, Martin and O'Brien.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Fred Conquest, Queenie Leighton, Ben Albert, Joe Briff, Nolan and Kiddie, Clara Butterworth.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:— J. H. Greener, Vera and Vi, Archie O'Neill.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:— Company as booked.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artists are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Applications for Engagements by Artists or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artists are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents. Silence a polite negative.

Artists desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinees are held every Wednesday at the Empire Theatre, South Shields, at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artists are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artists must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

(3) Press Matter and Photos. Star Artists, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyrights), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artists and Agents. When an Artist or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artist that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the Managing Director or Business Manager, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payments. The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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